

2013

State of New Jersey
County Animal Response Team (CART)
Program Framework

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PREFACE

In developing the following County Animal Response Team (CART) program documents, the New Jersey (NJ) CART Working Group, authors of these documents, researched and took into consideration national best practices and numerous jurisdictional plans regarding animal disaster preparedness and response. These CART program documents are designed to establish consistent CART activities across the state and be in compliance with the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (PETS Act) and similar requirements under New Jersey law.¹

These state and federal laws require New Jersey counties to plan for and “support the needs of animals and individuals with an animal under their care, including service animals, in a major disaster or emergency”. To align with these requirements, the NJ CART Working Group* has determined that counties need to implement a CART program; have a written CART Plan; and adopt the relevant CART Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). In addition, there are minimum capabilities that must be achieved to be a NJ CART, including establishing CART leadership positions and having the ability to operate a CART Shelter independently for 72 hours and up to 5 days with county, state and/or non-governmental organization (NGO) assistance, with a 10 day maximum operational timeframe. (See Household Pet CART Shelter SOP for details regarding the specifics.)

In all cases, the Working Group has developed CART program documents with the safety and well-being of the animals, their owners and CART members as the primary consideration. While many of the CART program documents are resource dependent, the Working Group recognizes that some emergencies or disasters may result in challenges well beyond the available capabilities of a CART and their resources and mutual aid agreements. Given this situation, the CART should be proactive and submit anticipated requests through their county Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to the NJ State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to the NJ Emergency Support Function 11 (NJESF11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources) to obtain the needed resources.

*We would like to acknowledge and thank the representatives from the following agencies that comprised the NJ CART Working Group:

- New Jersey Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)
- New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA)
- New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness
- New Jersey Department of Human Services
- New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM)
- United States Department of Agriculture
- Hudson County OEM
- Monmouth County OEM

¹ New Jersey Bill 1929 (approved August 2006) (Section 19 of P.L. 1989, c.222 as amended)





- Cumberland County OEM
- Various CARTs, especially Hudson CART and Hunterdon CART

INTRODUCTION

The State of New Jersey is susceptible to a multitude of potential emergencies and disasters, which have the potential to impact animals. From localized incidents such as flooding and inclement weather to catastrophic incidents such as a hurricane or terrorist attack, these events require the emergency response community throughout the state to plan, train and prepare for response operations that include animals. However, not all counties in NJ have an entity that is responsible and/or capable to prepare and respond to animal needs during disasters.

During the summer of 2012, as part of an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant, a stakeholder workgroup was formed to develop guidelines for counties to use when forming a County Animal Response Team (CART) program. This includes a minimum level of operational capabilities to be considered as a viable CART program in New Jersey. The workgroup consisted of animal response experts and emergency management stakeholders from across the state. After surveying existing capabilities throughout the state and examining best practices from across the country, the working group developed this CART Program Framework as the recommended organizational and operational minimum standards of a NJ CART program.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a standardized framework for NJ counties to utilize when forming a CART program and/or when aligning current CART activities with statewide efforts in order to ensure standardization within all NJ CART programs.

Scope

The CART Program Framework focuses on the development, management, and continuation of a county level CART program as a whole rather than just the operational or response tasks provided by a CART. Details concerning specific CART response activities can be found in the Household Pet CART Shelter Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

Authority

NJ CART programs are typically under the auspices of the County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM). When a CART program has been placed under another department for administrative purposes, activation during an emergency should still be authorized by the County OEM. While NJ CART programs will be able to independently schedule meetings, trainings, recruitments and exercises, they should keep the County OEM informed/involved in their activities.





CART Program Requirements

CART capabilities will depend upon the needs of the county and available resources. However, in New Jersey, every CART should have the basic capability of providing at least one co-located Household Pet CART Shelter with a capacity of at least 50 animals. CARTs should be able to independently operate the CART Shelter for 72 hours and will be expected to maintain shelters operations for at least 5 days with proper requested assistance from the county, state and/or through NGO resources, with a 10 day maximum operational timeframe. This includes all the necessary human and material resources needed to staff and operate the CART shelter. In addition, every CART should be able to fill all leadership positions recommended in this document.

CART Program Limitations

CART members must understand their limitations when responding to a disaster and be alert for signs of vicarious trauma, burnout, and compassion fatigue in themselves and their colleagues. These terms have often times been used interchangeably, but there are important differences between them.

Vicarious trauma typically refers to a disaster worker who through empathy, experiences a traumatic reaction due to exposure to their client's traumatic experiences. When working in the acute phases of a disaster, CART members need to be most careful to control and monitor their level of exposure to trauma to prevent or limit their own vicarious trauma. Burnout is the gradual exhaustion and depletion of emotional energy that comes from being overworked, without sufficient rest, reward or recovery. There are four stages of burnout: loss of enthusiasm, stagnation, frustration, and apathy. Compassion fatigue is similar to burnout, and is caused by overextending one's capacity for selflessness. After a period of time spent extending one's capabilities, caring for clients can come to seem like a chore and disaster workers may become angry, sarcastic, or bored with clients.

Vicarious trauma, burnout, and compassion fatigues are all related and are not mutually exclusive. At the site of a disaster, CART members may find themselves exposed to horrific experiences and overwhelmed clients, called upon to be constantly caring, and working long hours. To mitigate against these problems it is recommended that CART operations have a maximum operating period of 10 days. This 10 day timeframe was determined to be the amount of time when fatigue set in and overwhelmed CART members during operations for Hurricane Sandy and should be adopted as a best practice. Even though CART programs have a responsibility to decrease the likelihood of compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, and burnout, each disaster worker should also take active responsibility for his or her well-being during any disaster event, regardless of the timeframe.

ORGANIZATION

A CART program is comprised of volunteers and other entities, such as government agencies and the private sector, with resources and personnel to prepare and respond to animal issues in disasters. The CART program provides a structure for planning, training and collaboration with other responder entities to





provide a coordinated disaster response within a county. The CART program is not a single deployable entity, rather it represents an organizational umbrella under which one or many animal response operations may occur. Ideally, each CART program will maintain the minimum set of operational capabilities set forth in this document to deploy assets, both within their respective counties and potentially within state boundaries, depending upon the needs of the event. While NJ CART programs may have variations between counties, they should conform to standard terminology and basic CART functional positions as well as typed deployable assets, in order to better promote a unified approach and operational capabilities across the state.

CART Leadership Positions

To facilitate a viable CART program, a division of duties and responsibilities into several leadership positions is necessary. The following are the minimum key leadership positions the CART program needs to have to be considered a NJ CART program. Each position may have an assistant or co-position depending on the need of the CART.

CART Director

The CART Director directs and manages the entirety of the CART program, with the assistance of other CART Leadership positions. The CART Director maintains a close relationship with the County OEM, and attends OEM related meetings. The Director also ensures that regular CART meetings, effective training, and exercises are held, and delegates responsibilities to other CART members for such things as the upkeep of CART equipment and resources. During a response, and depending upon the event, the CART Director may not actually deploy into the field, but may be needed as the CART Liaison to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in order to coordinate the overall CART response. As a result, the CART Director should maintain a higher level of understanding related to EOC operations through additional training and/or participation in EOC exercises. The CART Director has the ability to designate leadership responsibilities to other qualified CART members.

CART Veterinarian

The CART Veterinarian (CART Vet) is the Lead Veterinarian to provide subject matter expertise and guidance for the program. The CART Veterinarian provides official oversight to other veterinarians and other veterinary care team members in the CART program. The CART Vet will develop and approve the CART's veterinary protocols and other veterinary care procedures, along with overseeing the CART veterinary care team members and activities in responses. The CART Vet has the ability to designate responsibilities in consultation with the CART Director regarding veterinary care to other qualified veterinary CART members.

CART Animal Control Officer (ACO)

The CART ACO provides subject matter expertise and guidance on animal handling and rescue. The CART ACO will assist the CART by providing a range of support including the identification of specific safety procedures that must be taken into consideration when handling animals; knowledge of animal





handling practices; knowledge of state regulations pertaining to the treatment and care of animals including county health department guidelines and procedures related to animal bites. The CART ACO has the ability to designate responsibilities in consultation with the CART Director regarding animal control to other qualified ACO and animal handling CART members.

CART Staffing/Resource Coordinator

The CART Staffing/Resource Coordinator responsibilities are to maintain the roster of CART members; to alert the CART team members of possible deployment; organize shift schedules so that CART response positions are covered for each shift; coordinate human and material resource deployment; maintain inventory and restocking; and inform the CART Director of any shortages of equipment or available personnel. The CART Staffing/Resource Coordinator allows the CART Director to focus on larger issues such as fully integrating CART activities with overall emergency management activities and coordinating with additional stakeholders. Depending on the number of CART members and the amount of material resources, this position could be divided into two separate positions: a CART Staffing Coordinator and a CART Resource Coordinator.

CART Members

CART program members provide the backbone of the CART's response capabilities and will include a variety of volunteers with different areas of expertise and experiences. CART members should be designated into CART positions/job titles based upon their capabilities, backgrounds, and levels of training and previous experiences. A formal CART membership application and Code of Conduct, should be given and obtained for every CART member, along with any other standardizing document deemed necessary by the CART Leadership (protocols, SOPs, etc.).

CART Liaison

Whereas CART Leadership positions are charged with managing the CART Program itself, the CART Liaison is an operational role that can be assigned to any qualified member of the CART, including members of the CART Leadership. The CART Liaison serves as the primary point of contact between the CART and the County EOC or Office of Emergency Management during CART activations. During an activation, the CART Liaison may also serve as a primary point of contact between the CART and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, the ESF 11 lead agency. Several CART members should be trained and designated to serve in this capacity. When the EOC is activated, the CART Liaison may be imbedded in the EOC itself or be readily available by other means of communication.

In many cases the CART Director may choose to retain the role of CART Liaison, however, it should be delegated to a qualified CART member during periods of unavailability or when extended activations preclude continued involvement. Depending upon the current assignment of the CART Liaison, a CART may prefer that the CART Liaison confer with other CART Leadership positions before making important decisions, however, the CART Liaison should always be empowered to make operational decisions in the case of time sensitive activities or when CART Leadership members are unavailable. It is strongly





suggested that CART fill this position and have the CART liaison staff the county EOC, to be fully integrated into the response, obtain the necessary situational awareness, and be informed on the decisions made in the county EOC, which will ultimately impact the CART response operations.

Deployable Assets

When CART members are combined with the CART's material resources, in specific amounts and categories, they form specialized and standardized deployable assets, such as a CART Household Pet Shelter Team.

The minimum deployable asset that a viable CART program needs to achieve is a CART Household Pet Shelter Team capable of independently providing for at least 50 animals for minimum of 72 hours, but will be expected to maintain shelter operations for at least 5 days with county, state and/or NGO assistance, with a 10 day maximum operational timeframe. (See Household Pet CART Shelter SOP for details regarding the specifics and Type II CART Team details.)

Once this standard is met, CART programs are encouraged to develop other deployable assets such as additional CART shelter teams, rescue assets and capabilities for large animals and livestock (See Appendix 1: Additional CART Capabilities). By having standardizing deployable CART assets statewide, each county will know exactly what assets to request and will be able to integrate mutual aid resources into their own or other CART operations.

REQUIRED CAPABILITIES

CART capabilities will depend upon the needs of the county, the human and material resources, and training available to the CART. However, in New Jersey, every CART should have the basic capability of providing at least one co-located Household Pet CART Shelter with a capacity of at least 50 animals. CARTs should be able to independently operate the CART Shelter for 72 hours and will be expected to maintain shelter operations for at least 5 days with assistance from the county, state and NGOs/or, with a 10 day maximum operational timeframe. This includes all the necessary human and material resources needed to staff and operate the CART shelter. The following household pet sheltering capabilities can be accomplished by utilizing the specific SOPs outlined in the Household Pet CART Shelter SOP document.

In addition, various combinations of CART deployed assets can be used to fulfill additional capability missions depending upon factors such as the size of the impacted animal population and the stage of the event. Additional CART capabilities are specified in Appendix A of this document.

Household Pets

A household pet is generally defined as a domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rabbit, rodent, fish, or turtle, which is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes. However, this list of potential household pets is not exhaustive for the purposes of CART programs, and in some cases may include reptiles or arachnids depending upon the situation and capabilities of the CART.





Household Pet CART Shelter Team

A CART Shelter Team provides temporary emergency animal sheltering services to household pets, preferably co-located with a human needs shelter but potentially at a stand-alone location. The minimum operational requirement for a CART program is the ability to independently open, operate, and maintain a CART Shelter with the capacity for 50 animals for a minimum of 72 hours but will be expected to maintain shelters operations for at least 5 days with assistance from the county, state and NGOs, with a 10 day maximum operational timeframe.

PROGRAM FUNCTIONS

The following functions should be part of the CART program's composition and be tasked to specific CART Leadership and CART members, although variations in how the CART program implements these functions may differ from CART to CART:

Planning/Preparedness

- Identify current animal shelters, which might have available space in a disaster.
- Coordinate with the American Red Cross (ARC) and other entities responsible for human sheltering, along with the County and Municipal OEM and collaborate regarding information sharing prior to and during disasters.
- Identify locations for potential CART shelters (i.e. schools, parks, fairgrounds), preferably co-located/next to/near the human shelters.
- Visit potential CART shelter locations on a yearly basis (or as needed) and complete facility surveys. Determine notification procedures and reporting procedures.
- Develop a plan to ensure provisions are accessible to displaced animals after the 10 day maximum CART operational timeframe.
- Develop appropriate policies (e.g. Dress Attire Policy).
- Review CART plans, policies and SOPs on a yearly basis, and update as needed.
- Complete an inventory of CART supplies on a yearly basis, and restock as needed.
- Coordinate and collaborate with support agencies and organizations the private sector, voluntary and faith-based groups, etc.
- Collaborate with adjacent county CARTs, and/or form regional collaborations.
- Coordinate with NJDA regarding standardized response and recovery policies, procedures and forms (i.e. search and rescue; fostering; intake forms; ID/tracking; etc.).
- Hold CART meetings for Leadership and members on a periodic basis.

Resources and Logistics

- Volunteer management– maintain current contact information and hold regular meetings.
- Maintain an inventory of equipment and supplies.





- Develop a list of needed animal care supplies and providers for use in times of disasters. This should include suppliers for pet food. If sheltering livestock, this should include feed, hay and bedding suppliers.
- Collaborate with County OEM and the State of New Jersey's Department of Agriculture.
 - Division of Animal Health/NJ ESF11

Public Outreach/Information

- Identify a list of events where critical preparedness information can be distributed to the community.
- Develop a community outreach campaign.
- Develop a policy for animal reunification post-incident.

Training and Exercises

- Maintain a training program for existing and new CART members.
- Review and update County specific CART orientations.
- Disseminate information regarding recommended or useful animal response or emergency management training.
- Coordinate with County OEM, other agencies/organizations, and other CARTs to participate in or conduct exercises regularly.

Veterinary Services

- Identify local veterinary medical providers that would be willing and able to assist during an emergency.
- Develop a list of needed veterinary medical supplies and providers in times of disasters.
- Develop protocols and standards of care for disaster animal medical emergencies.



APPENDIX 1: Additional CART Capabilities

The capabilities listed below should only be explored after a CART has achieved all the minimum requirements needed to establish a CART program and maintain a CART shelter for the recommended 5 days.

Household Pets

A household pet is generally defined as a domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rabbit, rodent, fish, or turtle, which is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes. However, this list of potential household pets is not exhaustive for the purposes of CART programs and in some cases may include reptiles or arachnids depending upon the situation and capabilities of the CART.

Household Pet Rescue Team

A Household Pet Rescue Team provides search and rescue services of various capacities for household pets during or following an emergency or disaster. This trained and qualified team is not a requirement for a CART program but can be developed as an optional response capability. Local Animal Control Officers may also be utilized for this role and should be contacted prior to an emergency or disaster to establish protocols for initiating Search and Rescue during an emergency or disaster.

Livestock

“Livestock” is generally defined as domestic animals, such as cattle or horses, raised for home use or for profit, especially on a farm. It may include goats, donkeys, pigs, alpaca, sheep, mules, etc. Livestock are typically considered larger animals with specific needs that cannot be met at a CART shelter.

Large Animal Shelter Team

A Large Animal Shelter Team provides temporary large animal shelter services for livestock or other approved large animals. The Large Animal Shelter is usually located at a fairground, racetrack, or other appropriate facility. Large Animal Shelters may require specific tactical and staffing plans based upon their locations and other needs. This trained and qualified team is not a requirement for a CART program but can be developed as an optional response capability.

Large Animal Rescue Team

A Large Animal Rescue Team provides search and rescue services of various capacities for livestock during or following an emergency or disaster. This team requires specialized training, equipment, vehicles, and transportation assets. This trained and qualified team is not a requirement for a CART program but can be developed as an optional response capability.



APPENDIX 2: CART Recruitment and Retention Strategies

Introduction

In the quiet hours when we are alone and there is nobody to tell us what fine fellows we are, we come sometimes upon a moment in which we wonder, not how much money we are earning, nor how famous we have become, but what good we are doing. - A.A. Milne

Volunteers are an essential part of the CART program as they provide valuable support to animal owners in need and are usually motivated by a simple desire to carry out CART's mission because they believe in it. Even though volunteers are unpaid, they still require careful and deliberate recruitment, interviewing, management and encouragement.

Recruitment Strategies

Marketing CART

To initially and continually obtain new CART members, the CART will have to identify ways to promote its program throughout the county, while soliciting the kinds of members it needs for the team. The CART should consider:

- What internal support is needed?
- What external support is needed?
- Are there ready-made groups for this training?

Identify Potential CART Volunteers

There are professionals with inherent expertise in working with animals that CART could solicit to find volunteers. Other beneficial groups to lobby are those who are already active within a community. The groups listed below are good examples of suitable groups for CART organizers to approach.

- Neighborhood Associations
- Dog Park Associations
- Animal Rescue Groups
- Animal Adoption Groups
- Animal Clubs
- Animal Placement Groups
- Animal Shelter Organizations
- Animal Daycares
- Pet groomers/walkers
- Veterinarians/Veterinarian Technicians
- New Jersey SPCA
- Animal Controllers
- Fire Departments
- Police Departments
- Educational Institutions
- Religious Institutions





Develop an Outreach Program

After identifying audiences that would be interested in joining CART, a CART organizer should arrange to speak to them. In addition, organizers should participate in the county's National Preparedness Month itinerary; or in events alongside other response groups such as OEM, American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, CERT, etc. Presentations should be developed and presented to provide the following: background information on CART, its goals and objectives; information on personal preparedness; information on the importance of animal planning and how individuals/businesses can get involved.

Develop and Disseminate Marketing Materials

Existing CART members should prepare media releases; distribute fliers/brochures in targeted animal friendly areas (dog parks/run, obedience training clubs, doggie day cares, etc.); place articles in neighborhood/dog park association newsletters; distribute information at community events including fairs and event days; establish a bulletin board at local animal shelters and veterinary clinics; and utilize social media to post preparedness tips, CART background information, upcoming events, etc. In addition, CART members could establish blogs regarding CART activities, or post stories or images on social media sites. Useful social media sites include:

- www.facebook.com
- www.linkedin.com
- www.myspace.com
- www.twitter.com
- www.blogspot.com

All outreach materials should include contact information in the form of a phone number or email address in case people have questions. If people do have questions the CART should designate a member to respond to them promptly and properly.

Get the Media Involved

CART members should develop press releases, Public Service Announcements (PSAs), etc. regarding the CART's current recruitment effort. In addition, CARTs should request that a local newspaper, radio station, television station, online magazine, website or blog promote the CART in print, on air, or online. Some print and online publications list community events; CART should find out which ones list events in their area and send them information regarding the CART. Moreover, some newspapers and websites reserve unsold advertising space for nonprofit ads. CARTs should investigate posting information on local cable TV public access message boards, online forums, etc., and should provide the media with footage or photo opportunities involving the CART in action.

Marketing CART to Citizens

Select Pilot Groups





CART organizers should review the demographics of the county to identify businesses and citizens' groups that would serve as the best models for CART to solicit to assist with either volunteers and/or resources. CARTs should then Target their initial marketing to the leaders of these groups, expanding within the groups after getting buy-in from the leaders.

Emphasize the Benefits of CART

To motivate others to volunteer CART members should identify the benefits of joining a CART program. CART members:

- Maintain a high level of home and workplace preparedness
- Are more informed about risks and vulnerabilities in the community
- Are committed to the safety and well-being of their animals and the animals of their neighbors
- Increase the credibility of neighbor-to-neighbor information, which helps to limit rumors and directs energy toward a positive response

Marketing CART to Businesses

Arrange a Meeting

CART members should meet with business leaders in person to show commitment to the program. This in person meeting also provides the CART with an opportunity to:

- Identify and discuss potential threats that may affect the community and the business
- Emphasize the benefits that the CART program brings to both the community and the business
- Develop a partnership with the local business in which both the business and the CART program will benefit

Conduct the Meeting

When meeting with business leaders, chose key CART members to:

- Spell out what the CART can offer them and how they can assist the CART
- Present a complete plan, including goals and objectives, the CART's proposed timeline for implementing the program, and how business leaders can evaluate the benefits of the program
- Emphasize the benefits of increased animal preparedness in the county

Follow-up

After meeting with business leaders a CART member should send a thank you letter, on CART letterhead, to thank business leaders for giving up their time and allowing CART to speak with them. The thank yous are an opportunity to market CART's key points one more time, and should indicate when a CART member will contact them again to follow up on working together.



Marketing CART to Responders

A working relationship between first responders and CARTs is vital. First responders should understand the strength and limitation of the CART program. CARTs should provide information about their mission, capabilities and resources. CARTs should also discuss having joint meetings, along with ways to partake in each other's training and exercises.

Retention Strategies

Attracting new volunteers is only part of the equation, retaining existing and new volunteers are equally important. Strategies include:

- Making volunteers feel welcome, special and appreciated
- Discovering and investigating their interests, motives for volunteering, and expectations from their volunteer experience and organizations
- Offering choices in volunteers' placement
- Briefing them on the organization's mission, goals, key personnel, and facilities
- Providing an evaluation for ongoing feedback and communications with volunteers
- Outlining specific roles and responsibilities. Position descriptions should clearly define responsibilities
- Engaging in professional development
- Periodically holding volunteer forums to address issues and concerns
- Keeping up with the trends in volunteering
- Matching technology to future needs
- Encouraging questions
- Printing newsletters with a synopsis on CART activities
- Having members call new volunteers to welcome them to volunteer functions
- Providing a buddy system for support
- Providing an annual reorientation for all volunteers
- Expressing appreciation of a job, especially those well done
- Offering help and support
- Planning a volunteer recognition event
- Surveying new members 30 days and 6 months after they become CART members
- Providing exit interviews of volunteers who discontinue service

Recognition Strategies

Volunteers are special people; the CART program should acknowledge their involvement and contribution. Ways to recognize volunteers include:

- Writing letters, notes, emails, and cards of thanks
- Providing certificates of appreciations





- Awarding volunteers for hours of service
- Writing articles about volunteers in newsletters
- Sending volunteers get well, anniversary (date began volunteering), thinking of you, and birthday cards
- Awarding life memberships, if appropriate
- Holding special events honoring volunteers, i.e. lunches, banquets, etc.
- Acknowledging volunteer efforts at committee and board meetings
- Providing farewell activities for volunteers moving away from the area and/or resigning for health or age reasons
- Acknowledging volunteers creatively by giving small tokens of appreciation



APPENDIX 3: Recommended Training

County Animal Response Team (CART) Orientation -

To be developed by the CART, example orientation information can be found through the following:
<http://www.ualbanycph.org/learning/registration/tab.cfm?course=cart&s=Overview>

IS-100.b Introduction to Incident Command System -

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100b.asp>

ICS 100, Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

IS-700.a National Incident Management System (NIMS) an Introduction -

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700a.asp>

This course introduces and outlines the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents.

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the intent of NIMS.
- Describe the key concepts and principles underlying NIMS.
- Describe the purpose of the NIMS Components including: Preparedness, Communications and Information Management, Resource Management, and Command and Management.
- Describe the purpose of the National Integration Center.

IS-10 Animals in Disaster - Module A: Awareness and Preparedness -

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is10a.asp>

This course is intended to help animal owners, care providers, and industries to understand incident management. The objectives of this course are to increase awareness and preparedness among animal owners and care providers, and to describe how typical hazards affect animals and what can be done by responsible owners to reduce the impact of disasters.

IS-11 Animals in Disaster - Module B: Community Planning -

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS11a.asp>

This course provides information for groups to meet and develop meaningful and effective plans that improve the care of animals, their owners, and the animal-care industries in disasters. The objectives of





this course are to learn how to develop a community plan for managing animals in an emergency, identify hazards and threats most likely to affect your community and ways to minimize their impact on animals, indicate how communities use the Incident Command System (ICS) to respond effectively to an incident involving animals, describe resources available to help communities recover from a disaster, and develop community support for a disaster preparedness plan involving animals.