



ANIMALS AND DISASTERS



January 11, 2010
A presentation for
Maui County Health Volunteers

Maui Humane Society

- Caring for Maui's animals since 1953
- Provide shelter for ~10,000 pets/year
- Adoptions, reclaims and transfers to other facilities
- Other programs include
 - Spay/neuter
 - Training and behavioral advice
 - Education/day camps
 - Furlough Friday events
 - Pet "Therapy"



Maui Humane Society also

- Has a contract with Maui County for animal management.
 - Investigate and enforce pet-related laws/ offenses
- Has Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with State of Hawaii for pet-related issues re: disaster preparedness and response
 - ESF (Emergency Support Function) #19



PETS Act of 2006

- On October 6, 2006 the President signed into law the Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act to ensure that state and local emergency plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.

Pet carrier atop rescue boat



3 Main Impacts of PETS Act:

- State and local emergency plans must now include provisions for people with household pets and service animals; allows the federal government to withhold grant funding for non-compliance
- During major disasters, FEMA must help states and local communities with costs related to companion animals.
- Each county must develop animal components for its emergency plans for evacuation, transportation, sheltering, veterinary care & more.

Some Emergency Shelters on Maui Now Accept Pets

Pets in carriers are held/cared for in different rooms *apart from human shelter (reasons: safety, noise, comfort, allergies, hygiene)*

Maui Waena Intermediate
 Lokelani Intermediate
 Kalama Intermediate
 King Kekaulike High
 Baldwin High and Maui High



Note: Shelters in Lahaina, Hana, Lanai & Molokai do not accept pets yet

Shelter needs vary depending on type of disaster and during vs. after event

WIND EVENTS (hurricane, etc.):

- During event, wind-safe structure
- After event, outdoors under shade OK

FLOOD/Tsunami:

- Evacuate with pet to higher ground

ROAD CLOSURE due to fire/accident/flood (trapped away from home with or without pets)

- Emergency supplies in car/key with neighbor to feed pet

Preparedness for Your Pet

- Food, Water, and Treats (for at least 2 weeks)
- Bowls
- Cat litter
- Medications
- Leash (and long lead/ground stake)
- **Identification** (microchip is best; collar and tag are minimum required)
- **Pet Carrier**

Pet Carrier

- Should be large enough that pet can stand up and turn around (plus room for litterbox)
- Plastic carrier vs. metal carrier: consider weight, size, foldability
- Practice putting your pet in the carrier so when a disaster happens (or is predicted), you can get your pet into the carrier easily
- Use treats if necessary to coax pet into carrier



Sheltering

Pet Friendly Shelters video

(If link is not working, please go to www.MauiReady.gov/MCHV and scroll to Quarterly Meeting, Jan 11, 2010)

Animal Handling

- Use caution when approaching stray animals in the community
- If animal cannot be coaxed toward you, do not try to corner it
- If in doubt, call animal control



Pets and Disasters

PETS AND DISASTERS VIDEO

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Resources



Resources

- www.Mauihumanesociety.org
- www.HSUS.org
- www.ASPCA.org
- www.AHA.org
- Or just Google “pets” and “disasters”

Mahalo!

