Disaster Animal Sheltering
Module 2 - Shelter Setup
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Your Instructor:

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Disaster Animal Sheltering

Goals:

- Type of shelter
- Role of Leadership
- Staffing
- Layout
  - Colocation
  - Disaster Evacuation for stray
Disaster Animal Shelter

Setup

- Safe – People and Animals
- Flexible setup
- Efficient arrangement
Disaster Animal Sheltering

Types of Shelters

- Companion animal
  - Owned and Stray
- Large animal/livestock
  - Owned and Stray
Companion Animal Shelter

- Colocation shelter
  - Owned
- Disaster evacuation shelter
  - Stray and Owned
Companion Animal Shelter

- More difficult to control the environment of a colocation
  - Heavier traffic in and out of the facility
- Placement may vary to assist with owner provided care
Large Animal Shelter

- Owned and stray animals
- Many large animal species
Facility Leadership

Leadership Roles

- Shelter Supervisor
- Safety Officer
- Lead Veterinarian
Facility Layout Evaluation

- Animal housing
- Veterinarian
- Intake
- Staffing break area
- Donations and Supplies “Warehouse”
Facility Layout Evaluation

- Cleaning and feeding stations
- Cleaning and sanitation
- Facilities
  - Restrooms
  - Waste removal
Facility Leadership

Shelter Supervisor

- Overall leader of the shelter
- Responsible for:
  - Layout
  - Daily routines
  - Care givers
- Main contact with Field Manager
Facility Layout

**Shelter Supervisor**

- Animal housing placement
  - Species specific
- Intake/Documentation
- Supplies storage
- Volunteer space
Facility Leadership

Safety Officer

- Scene safety
- Safety of the people
- Safety of the animals
Facility Layout

**Safety Officer**

- Evaluates for safety
  - Repairs
  - Concerns
- Modifications depending on setup
Facility Leadership

Lead Veterinarian

- Oversees the veterinarian teams
  - Ensures protocols are followed
- Oversees the health of the animals
  - Exams
  - Medicating
  - Vaccinating
- Follow-up on animals sent out for advanced medical care
Facility Layout

**Lead Veterinarian**

- Evaluates for health and well-being of the animals
- Vet Station
- Triage?
Staffing: Volunteers and shelter staff

- Lots of volunteers
- Prescreened and trained volunteers
  - ICS
  - Experienced
- Just-in-Time (JIT)
Planning and Setup: Leadership

- Best placement of each areas
  - Plans the layout
- Special considerations:
  - Airflow and temperature control
  - Fresh air in and stale air out
  - Moderate hot and cold conditions
Planning and Setup: Volunteers & Staff

- Clean facility
- Make needed repairs
- Set up and organize the equipment
- Organize cleaning and feeding supplies
Shelter Setup: Volunteers

- Setup the wire kennels
- Zip-tie each corner to prevent escape
- Place kennels and kennels according to the planned layout
Facility Layout: Flexible Design

- Many unknown factors
  - Species
  - Number of animals
  - Needs of the animals
  - Timeline for arrival and departure
Facility Layout: Flexible Design

- Same size kennels
- Large space
- Separation between areas
  - Space
  - Rooms
  - Barriers
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

Dogs

- Largest space
- Near exit to exercise yard
- X-Large wire kennels
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

**Dogs**

- Line kennels side by side and back to back
- Barrier between each kennel
- Barrier is visual and disease
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

Dogs – Family units

- Small dogs can share XL kennel
  - Beware of resource guarding
- Big dogs beside each other
  - Remove barrier
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

**Cats**

- Smaller space
- Can be stacked
- Away from high traffic area
- Large wire kennels
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

**Cats**

- Line kennels side by side and back to back
- Barrier between each kennel
- Barrier overlay between top and bottom to prevent debris from above
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

Cats – Family units

- Share kennel
- Assess behavior for conflicts
- Remove barrier
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

**Small pets, birds, reptiles**

- Generally don’t need a large space
- May come in their container
- Specific needs may or may not be able to be met
- Critical to understand the specific needs of each
Large Animal Shelter

- Pre-established space
  - Fairgrounds
  - Agricultural facilities
- Placing animals in stalls
- Multiple buildings for separation
Large Animal Shelter

- House horses individually
  - Resource guarders
  - Food aggressive
- House stallions away from mares
- Mares and foals in larger stalls
- Frightened animals in quieter area
Large Animal Shelter

- Sick in isolation area
  - Extra precautions for contagious
- Species can be in different buildings
Large Animal Shelter

- House family units near each other when possible
- Multiple species may need to be housed in different areas
  - Not unlike with cats and dogs
  - Consult with large animal veterinarian experts for specific requirements
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

*Isolation*

- Sick
- Contagious
- May need multiple areas to separate contagions
- Secure location and well controlled to prevent cross contamination
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

**Special needs: Maternity, Elderly**

- Away from noise and high traffic
- Calmer and quieter
- Closer monitoring
- Specialty care/veterinarian monitoring
Large Animal Shelter

- Isolation area
- Maternity
- Special needs
- Intact males
  - Stallions
  - Bulls
Facility Layout: Animal Housing

**Bite hold/Aggressive**

- Bite hold – jurisdictional authority
- Special housing
- Special handling

*May not be best in the disaster shelter*
Facility Layout: Veterinary Area

- Quieter, calmer area
- Less foot traffic
- Space to work
- Access to Isolation animals
Facility Layout: Veterinary Area

- Power
- Lighting
- Refrigeration
- Security
- Documentation
Facility Layout: Intake

- Front of the shelter
- Large space
  - Room for crowd control
  - Separate species intakes
Facility Layout: Intake

- Table and chairs
- Drinking water
- Office supplies
- Animal supplies
  - Slip leads
  - Carriers
- Documentation
  - Forms
  - ID bands
- Microchip scanner
Facility Layout: Staffing Break Area

- Volunteers and staff
- Away from the shelter (whenever possible)
- Food, water, cots, chairs
Facility Layout: Donations and Supplies

- Warehouse all supplies
- Restocks feeding and cleaning stations in the shelter
Facility Layout: Cleaning and Feeding Stations

- Specific to each area or unit
- Supplies necessary for daily care
- Supplies should not be taken from other areas especially Isolation
Facility Layout: Cleaning and Sanitation

- All equipment, kennels, bowls, toys
- Away from animal and people traffic
- Running hot and cold water
- Rinse, wash, rinse, sanitize, rinse and dry
Facility Layout: Waste

- Daily waste
  - Paper towels
  - Gloves
  - Animal waste
  - Dirty towels
- Dumpsters
Facility Layout: Waste

- Restrooms
  - Fully operating in the facility
- Portables
Facility Layout: Conclusion

- Plan ahead when possible
- Map it out
- Exercise to test it out
- If it’s not working fix it!
  - Move things around so it flows efficiently
Always: Be Flexible

Questions in Colorado?

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