



Josephine County Animal Evacuation and Sheltering Plan

Purpose of the Manual

The purpose of this document is to provide for a more effective emergency response by addressing the needs of pets and livestock and their owners during disasters. This plan is intended to minimize distress and trauma to domestic animals and their owners by providing guidance on the following: 1) immediate care and control of animals; 2) temporary sheltering of companion and farm animals; 3) emergency veterinary care for injured companion and farm animals; and 4) a system for returning animals to their owners after a disaster event is over. This plan addresses small and large-scale emergencies, disasters and evacuations. It should be implemented whenever there is a need to access resources that can provide care for animals and their owners.

Individuals, facilities that house animals (such as kennels), and neighborhoods and communities are encouraged to create their own plan for the care of animals in the event of a disaster. Guidance for preparing pets and livestock for emergencies and disasters can be found in the booklet *Saving the Whole Family*, available at www.avma.org/disaster.

While the county provides guidance and some limited resources for animal owners, it is the owner's responsibility to care for their animals during all phases of a disaster. The appendices to the manual provide helpful information such as a list of hotels that are pet friendly, but it should be noted the information will change over time. Josephine County makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of the information and it should only be used as guidance.

Companion documents to this manual are currently under construction. They will be the *Standard Operating Procedures for Companion Animal Shelter* and the *Standard Operating Procedures for Large Animal Shelter*. These documents will provide the detail for how Josephine County shelters are to be set up and operated.