

# AKC Pet Disaster Relief

## Frequently Asked Questions

The American Kennel Club, AKC Reunite, and AKC Dog Clubs are joining forces to donate mobile trailers filled with non-perishable pet sheltering supplies to local emergency management teams. These trailers will store and deliver essential supplies to designated emergency pet sheltering locations to help pets in harm's way as a result of a disaster. Clubs will raise funds for the trailers, and AKC Reunite will also help with the funding.

There are many materials available to help you work with local emergency management and meet your fundraising goals. These can be found at [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief) or you can contact [relief@akcreunite.org](mailto:relief@akcreunite.org) or 919-816-3980.

### GETTING INVOLVED

#### **1. How can my Local AKC Dog Club and/or its affiliated foundations get involved with AKC Pet Disaster Relief?**

There are two ways for your Local Club to get involved, and they work hand-in-hand.

- A. Pitch AKC Pet Disaster Relief to your Local Emergency Management. With buy-in, you are on your way to showcasing your Club's concern for all pets and their well-being during a disaster, a time when they need it most. Plus, you will grow meaningful relationships with local government on a grassroots level.
- B. Register your Club or Local Community with AKC Reunite so funds can be designated toward your program. Then, begin promoting AKC Pet Disaster Relief to your Club members and community to raise funds to source the trailer. See HELP US ROLL OUT HELP REGISTRATION FORM found at [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief).

#### **2. How can my breed's Parent Club, regional breed club, group club or Club's affiliated foundation get involved with AKC Pet Disaster Relief?**

Your Club can help with this great program even if it is not a local club. Register your Parent Club with AKC Reunite so funds can be designated toward your Club's fund raising goals. Then, begin promoting AKC Pet Disaster Relief to your Club members to raise funds so your Club's logo is featured with AKC Pet Disaster Relief.



## WORKING WITH LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### **3. Tell Me More About Local Emergency Management.**

Local Emergency Management is often handled at the county level or for a regional area within a state. It is the responsibility of Local Emergency Management to provide support and leadership in preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation to their local, business and volunteer partners. Regardless of the size or budget of a community, the responsibility to prepare and care for its citizens – including plans to accommodate people with their pets in the event of a disaster– is required by law.

### **4. How do we engage with Local Emergency Management?**

If you do not know who to contact, [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov) has a State Directory of Emergency Managers. You can also do a web search with your State's name and "Local Emergency Management", oftentimes states have online directories.

### **5. Why would my Local Emergency Management want or need a trailer?**

Since Hurricane Katrina a series of laws (including the 2006 Federal PETS Act), have been passed that require local emergency management to plan for caring for people and their pets in the event of a disaster. AKC Pet Disaster Relief provides local municipalities with an invaluable resource to meet these requirements and to shelter pets during disasters.

### **6. What does my Local Emergency Management need to do to get a trailer?**

Local Emergency Management needs to agree to store, maintain and insure the trailer. They are also required to showcase the trailer in their community at public events like County Fairs and Parades and other festivals to educate citizens about disaster preparedness for pets. More information can be found in the AGREEMENT found at: [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief).

### **7. Is my Club responsible for the trailer after it is given to Local Emergency Management?**

No. The Local Emergency Management Team will take possession of the trailer and per the AGREEMENT terms, they will assume insurance requirements, as well as proper storage and maintenance of trailer and its contents.

## AKC PET DISASTER RELIEF USES

### **8. When will Local Emergency Management use the trailer?**

Local Emergency Management will use AKC Pet Disaster Relief in two different ways.

- A. As Co-location Shelters: keep animals and their human companions together, commonly needed during an evacuation due to an approaching hurricane,



wildfires or even Hazmat dangers. In these situations, families are responsible for their pets' general care.

- B. As Lost and Found Pet Shelters: provide sheltering and care for pets lost from their families during a disaster. Local Emergency Management and approved volunteers handle general pet care.

#### **9. Are there any restrictions for its use?**

The AKC Pet Disaster Relief equipment will become the property of the municipality. Per the AGREEMENT terms Local Emergency Management is authorized to use the trailer whenever a disaster is declared. More information about the equipment's uses and restrictions can be found in the AGREEMENT found at [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief).

#### **10. What is a “declared disaster”?**

Disasters are declared at a local, State or Federal level by authorized government officials. Disaster declarations are made for a specific situation, such as flood, fire, storm, earthquake, epidemic, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, or other similar condition; when there exists a condition of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property; and, when conditions are beyond the effective response capability of local government.

#### **11. Can my Club showcase AKC Pet Disaster Relief during Responsible Dog Ownership Day or during our dog shows?**

This is a fantastic idea! Discuss partnership possibilities when you present the AKC Pet Disaster Relief concept to your Local Emergency Management team. The more exposure your community has to the resources available for its pets during a disaster, the better chances Local Emergency Management will have in successful disaster response.

#### **12. Can Local Emergency Management share AKC Pet Disaster Relief equipment with other municipalities?**

It is possible for AKC Pet Disaster Relief equipment to be shared with neighboring municipalities. To do this, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is usually required between the two entities. Your Local Emergency Management should be familiar with this process.

#### **13. Why can't my local municipality simply rely on FEMA?**

Federal Law requires local emergency management to plan for the care of pets during a disaster. Aid can take days to mobilize, leaving people and their pets at risk for at least the first 72 hours. Generally, in major disasters FEMA comes in with equipment, personnel, money and resources after the first 72 hours, or to help rebuild and re-equip after a disaster.



## FUNDRAISING

### **14. Are donations tax deductible?**

AKC Reunite is a 501(c)3 not-for profit. Donations should be made to AKC Reunite via the DONATION SOLICITATION FORM or at [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief) and are tax deductible.

### **15. Who can donate to AKC Pet Disaster Relief?**

Both entities and individuals can donate to AKC Pet Disaster Relief.

### **16. How do I get a logo on a trailer?**

If an approved entity raises a minimum of \$1,000, they can have their logo featured on a trailer. Individuals can also make donations and reference their club to help the organization meet their specific fundraising goals.

The larger the fundraising contribution, the larger the logo on the trailer. See HELP US ROLL OUT HELP REGISTRATION FORM at [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief) Logo placement is at the sole discretion of AKC Reunite.

### **17. We are a small Club, but very interested in participating. How can we help?**

Consider building a fundraising network with other Clubs in your local area.

### **18. What are the file requirements for the logo to be put on the trailer?**

A high-resolution jpeg or PDF (300 dpi) of your logo will be required.

### **19. How are the logos applied?**

The logos are high-quality decals made from industrial/professional grade 3M™ Control Tac™ Plus 180 or equivalent and will be coated with a clear sealant.

### **20. What if the local municipality wants to add additional logos to the trailers?**

Under the terms of the AGREEMENT, the AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer will be delivered fully stocked with logos applied, including the name of the Local Emergency Management team. The municipality is not authorized to add additional logos or remove the logos provided on the trailer.

## TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE TRAILER

### **21. What is in the trailer?**

The AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer is stocked with essential supplies to house at least 65 pets the first 72 hours after a disaster is declared. The trailer has lighting and is

**AKC PET DISASTER RELIEF**



wired for electricity, to run off either a generator or 110v power supply. Following is a sampling of typical contents:

- Administrative Supplies: Log books, Volunteer registration forms, wrist/collar bands, check-in materials
- Maintenance Equipment: Batteries, Gas Can, Duct Tape
- Animal Care: Crates packed on rolling dollies for easy set-up, cat carriers,; litter, microchips and scanner, bowls, collars and leashes
- Equipment: Fans, Generator, Lighting, Hose
- Cleaning Supplies: Mop, trash can, tarps, litter boxes, disinfectants
- Access to training materials: Turnkey implementation of Co-Located Shelters and Pop-up Reunion Centers, Volunteer Mobilization, Decontamination and Replenishment

## **22. What about perishable items like vaccines and food?**

These supplies cannot be stored on the trailer. Local Emergency Management's planning should include deployment of veterinary care and resources, trained volunteers and sources for perishable items, such as food. Oftentimes the community will step up and donate food and pet care supplies after a disaster.

## **23. What are the trailer's towing requirements?**

Recipient organization must have access to a vehicle capable of transporting the Unit. The typical Unit is a 16ft x 7ft two-axle trailer with up to 10,000 lb GVW. Truck should be at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton with electric brakes and 10,000 lb pound hitch.

## **24. How long does it take to deliver a trailer?**

We expect it to take 30 to 90 days to deliver a trailer once the money has been raised, the GRANT APPLICATION is approved and the AGREEMENT is signed. The time may be affected by the volume of trailers requested. These forms can be found at [www.akcreunite.org/relief](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief).

## **25. I have additional questions about AKC Pet Disaster Relief.**

Please contact AKC Reunite at 919-816-3980 or [relief@akcreunite.org](mailto:relief@akcreunite.org).

