ANIMAL SERVICES & DISASTER PLANNING

By
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The goal of animal services in disaster situations is to educate and encourage responsible pet ownership while being a resource to our residents on animal-related issues and disaster animal planning.
So why is Animal Services important in Disaster Situations?

- Many households have at least 1 pet.
- During disasters, animal owners frequently put themselves in danger and disrupt evacuation efforts to ensure the safety of their pets.
- For this reason, the care of animals in disasters is IMPORTANT to the care of human life.
What is the Role of Culver City Animal Services in a Disaster?

- Assist in transporting animals
- Assist in the operation of animal shelters
- Coordinate rescue efforts of roaming animals
- Establish liaison with local agencies and voluntary organizations as resources
So what qualifies as a disaster?
Is this a disaster situation or event?
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Disaster Situations & Events

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Emergencies come in many forms.
Each type of disaster requires different measures to keep your pets safe, so the best thing you can do for yourself and your pets is to be prepared.
Dogs and Cats in Disasters
ARE YOU ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE BODY LANGUAGE?
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Facial Expression of a Cat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>More Submissive or More Fearful</th>
<th>More Aggressive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ears Pricked Forwards</strong></td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ears Out Sideways, Flattened</strong></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pupils Dilated, Ears Right Back</strong></td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pupils Dilated, Ears Half Back</strong></td>
<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image8.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ears Turned Back</strong></td>
<td><img src="image9.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image10.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Tail Expression of a Cat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friendly, Content</th>
<th>Non-Threatening, Unsure</th>
<th>Derisive &quot;*** You&quot;</th>
<th>Quivering, Very Pleased to See You</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hooked Tail</th>
<th>Amicable, Not Aggressive or Fearful</th>
<th>Defensive Aggression</th>
<th>Thrashing Tail, Excited or Angry or Irritable</th>
</tr>
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<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
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<tr>
<th>Friendly But Unsure</th>
<th>Bristling with Anger</th>
<th>Potentially Aggressive</th>
<th>Submissive</th>
<th>Twitching Tail - Alert, Interested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td><img src="image9.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image10.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image11.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image12.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
<td><img src="image13.png" alt="Cat Illustration" /></td>
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</table>
Body Expression of a Cat

Confident

- Tail held upright
- Ears forward and erect
- Pupils moderate - unless in very bright setting
- Purposeful upright walk
Body Expression of a Cat

Distance Increasing

- Arched back
- Pilo-erect fur
- Ears held
- Pupils dilated
- Whiskers pulled back
- Tail curved and swishing
- Paw ready to swat if necessary
Body Expression of a Cat

Defensive Aggression

- Ears pulled flat and back against the head
- Pupils dilated
- Facial muscles tensed, displaying teeth
- Rolling over on one side to better expose claws
- Paw ready to swat with claws exposed
Body Expression of a Cat

**Relaxed**
- Head and ears up
- Body stretched out
- Medium-sized pupils
- Whiskers held to the side
- Paws may flex in kneading motion
- Stomach semi- to completely exposed
ARE YOU ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE BODY LANGUAGE?
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Facial Expression of a Dog

Increasing Aggression

Increasing Fear
Body Expression of a Dog

Alert and Attentive

- Ears forward (may twitch as if trying to catch a sound)
- Eyes wide
- Smooth nose and forehead
- Mouth closed
- Slight forward lean standing tall on toes

- Tail horizontal (not stiff or bristled)
- Tail may move slightly from side to side
Body Expression of a Dog

Dominance / Aggression (Offensive threat)

- Ears forward (may be spread slightly to the side to form a wide V shape)
- Hackles raised
- Forehead may show vertical wrinkles
- Nose wrinkled
- Lips curled
- Teeth (and often the gums) are visible
- Mouth open and C-shaped. Corner of mouth is forward
- Stiff-legged stance, body leaning slightly forward

Tail is stiff but may be seen to quiver or vibrate from side to side
Body Expression of a Dog

Fear / Aggression
(Defensive threat)

- Hackles raised
- Ears back
- Pupils dilated
- Nose wrinkled
- Lips slightly curled (teeth may be somewhat visible)
- Tail tucked (little or no movement)
- Corner of mouth pulled back
Body Expression of a Dog

Fear / Submission
(Active submission)

- Forehead smooth
- Ears back
- Body lowered (may wag slightly)
- Tail down (may wag slightly)
- Eye contacts brief and indirect
- Licks at face of dominant dog or the air
- Corner of mouth back
- Paw raised
- May leave sweaty footprints
Body Expression of a Dog

Extreme fear / Total submission
(Passive submission)

- Rolls onto back exposing stomach and throat
- Head turns to avoid direct eye contact
- Ears flat and back
- Eyes partly closed
- Nose and forehead smooth
- Corner of mouth back
- Tail tucked
- May sprinkle a few drops of urine
Body Expression of a Dog

Playfulness

Tail up

Tail may broadly wave

Ears up

Pupils dilated

Mouth open, tongue may be exposed

Front end lowered by bent forepaws

Dog will usually hold this position for only a moment before breaking into a run in some random direction.
Responder’s Safety Priorities

- IMPORTANT
  1) Your own safety
  2) Your teammates and bystanders
  3) The subject
Encountering Animals

- Size Up the Situation
  1) Look for presence of owners
  2) Look for evidence of animals
  3) Consider local environment
  4) Be prepared for illegal animal activity
  5) Perform damage assessment
Approaching an Unknown Dog

- Do not let the dog block your escape
- Do not show fear; maintain relaxed posture
- Control environment; try to contain the dog
- Avoid direct eye contact
- Do not get near the dog’s face
- Know your limitations
If a Dog Attacks

- If any dog attack, call 911 immediately
- Put object or distance between yourself and the dog
- Back away; do not run away
- If you fall, curl up and cover your head
- Do not scream or yell
- If the dog latches on, protect your face
What should be in your disaster pet kit?
An Emergency Pet First Aid Kit

(Consult your veterinarian on what to include)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absorbent Gauze Pads</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adhesive Tape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotton Balls or Swabs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh 3% Hydrogen Peroxide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ice Pack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disposable Gloves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scissors with Blunt End</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tweezers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antibiotic Ointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral syringe or turkey baster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid dishwashing detergent</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Towels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Flashlight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol Wipes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Styptic Powder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saline Eye Solution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artificial Tear Gel</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vet Info Card</td>
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Pet Food

(Store at least 3 to 7 days in airtight and waterproof containers)
Water

(Store at least 3 to 7 days for each pet member in addition to yourself)
Medicine and medical records

(Keep an extra week supply in an airtight and waterproof container)
Collar with ID tag, harness or leash

(NOTE: Write your phone number on the collar, harness and leash in case the tag falls off)
Important Documents

(Keep copies of your pet’s registration, adoption papers, microchip number, vaccination documents, and medical records in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container as well as online such as via e-mail)
Important Documents

(Keep copies of your pet’s important documents in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container in your vehicle)
Crate or Other Pet Carriers

(Travel carriers, pillowcases and portable kennels/crates that are appropriately sized for your pet)
Sanitation
(Paper towels, bedding material, plastic trash bags, newspapers, pet litter and litter box if appropriate)
Pictures of you and your pet TOGETHER

(Pictures help document ownership and help to identify your pet)
Familiar toys, treats or bedding

(Favorite items can help reduce stress for your pet)
Get a Rescue Alert Sticker

(This easy-to-use sticker will let people know that pets are inside your home. Make sure it is visible to rescue workers such as at the front door or window.)

IN CASE OF FIRE OR EMERGENCY
PLEASE SAVE OUR PETS

Check the type of pets in the home:

☐ DOG(S) ☐ CAT(S)
☐ BIRD(S) ☐ OTHER

EMERGENCY # __________________

❤ THANK YOU! ❤
Recommended: MICROCHIPPING!

(This permanent implant AND the corresponding enrollment can help identify your pet and reunite the pet to you)
What else to help be prepared?

- Make a list of veterinary hospitals, boarding facilities, animal control agencies, emergency veterinary hospitals, and hotels that allow pets in other cities where you might need to seek temporary shelter.
What else to help be prepared?

- Make a plan for what to do in an emergency
- Develop a buddy or friend system
  - Plan to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so
What’s the best preparation?
Any Questions?

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http://www.culvercitypd.org/animalservices.html
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