



Introduction to the CAMET and Pet Sheltering

Presented by the
NC Department of Crime Control & Public Safety
Division of Emergency Management
and the
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Emergency Programs Division



Overview



- Animal sheltering background
- CAMET introduction and background
- Acquiring a CAMET
- Preparing for a CAMET and sheltering in your county



This slide provides an overview of the topics addressed in this presentation.

The PETS Act (1)



- The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act
- Legislation passed in October 2006
- Amends the Stafford Act
- Requires state and local disaster preparedness plans to take into account the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals



The PETS Act requires the director of FEMA, in approving standards for state and local disaster preparedness plans, to ensure that the plans take into account the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals. The bill also allows the director of FEMA to make financial contributions to state and local authorities for animal emergency preparedness purposes, including establishing shelters to accommodate people with pets and service animals.

This is an unfunded mandate that FEMA is requiring states to comply with. Reimbursement is usually available in the case of a declared a federal disaster, but there are no guarantees.

The PETS Act (2)



- Allows FEMA to make financial contributions to state and local authorities for animal emergency preparedness purposes
- Includes establishing shelters to accommodate people with pets and service animals



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NC's Efforts



- Continue to refine and build sheltering and plans and response capability
- Follow EM management lead
 - CRES Plan, Evacuation/Sheltering Plan, and Special Needs Population Planning
- Purchase and stage **CAMETS**
- Veterinary Response Corps



Here are a number of initiatives that NC has either continued to develop or has initiated to better prepare our citizens and their pets for large scale disasters. In this training, we will focus on CAMETS.

CRES stands for Coastal Regional Evacuation and Sheltering

What is a CAMET?



- Companion Animal Mobile Equipment Trailer
- Equipment to operate an animal shelter for companion animals



What is a CAMET? A Companion Animal Mobile Equipment Trailer. It's basically is an animal shelter on wheels (without the building and staff).

It is similar to a Red Cross "Sheltie".

Contents of the CAMET (1)



- Contains the equipment and supplies needed to operate an animal shelter
- **Does NOT include shelter staff**
- Inventory list in each CAMET
- Some inventory variation between units
- Does not include food, drugs, or perishable items



A CAMET comes with the “guts” of what is needed to set up a shelter to house companion animals.

Each CAMET includes 50 to 60 cages, a generator, power washer, roll of plastic, bowls etc.

No food, drugs or perishable items are included.

A CAMET do NOT come with personnel to operate the animal shelter.

Contents of the CAMET (2)



- Administrative supplies (forms, ID bands)
- Animal care supplies (crates, plastic bowls)
- Cleaning supplies (roll of plastic, buckets, brushes, hose, disinfectant)
- Generator
- Power washer
- Shop vacuum



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CAMET History



- Original idea in 2005
- Committee formed early 2006
- Included representatives from
 - NC Division of Emergency Management
 - NCDA&CS Emergency Programs
 - State Animal Response Team
 - NC Division of Public Health
 - American Red Cross



Dr. Jimmy Tickel with the NCDA&CS first developed the idea in 2005.

A committee started actively working on the project in early 2006.

The committee included: NCDA&CS Emergency Programs Division, NC Division of Emergency Management, SART (State Animal Response Team), the American Red Cross, and the NC Division of Public Health.

Partnering Agencies



- First 9 trailers built by NCDA&CS Emergency Programs Division and NC CC&PS Division of Emergency Management
- Funding donated to NCSART by NCVMA, American Kennel Club, NC Farm Bureau, HSUS, and Schering Plough).
- Second generation of 15 trailers funded to specific counties by DHS through MOA with the NC CC&PS Division of Emergency Management



The first 9 CAMETs were built by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Emergency Programs Division and the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety Division of Emergency Management. These trailers are state-owned assets.

Funding from North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, American Kennel Club, North Carolina Farm Bureau, Schering Plough and Humane Society of the United States was donated to North Carolina State Animal Response Team (SART). SART is a 501c, non-profit organization.

The second group of 15 were funded to specific North Carolina counties by the Department of Homeland Security through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NC Division of Emergency Management. These trailers are county-owned assets.

Resource Assignment



- NC Division of Emergency Management owns the titles to the original 9 units
- The 15 new units will be titled to each county with which there is a MOA
- County to county MOA and prior approval from NCEM required to use a neighboring county's CAMET during any disaster, emergency, or training



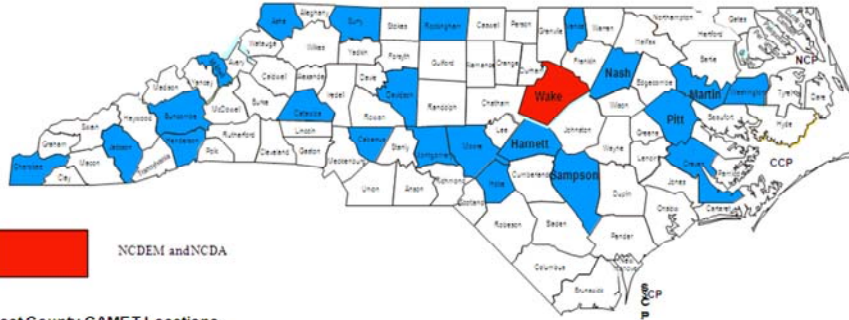
As of February 2009, the first nine belong to the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (NCEM). With a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), NCEM will loan the CAMET to the requesting county for use by the County Animal Response Team (CART) during a disaster or emergency.

As of February 2009 the 15 new units will be titled to the county with which there is a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM).

CAMET Staging Locations



Phase I and Phase 2 CAMET Locations



CAMET locations as of 3/17/09 for CAMETs that are state-owned by the NC Division of Emergency Management (phase I) and the CAMETs titled to individual counties through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NCEM (phase II).

Purchasing a CAMET



- SART, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, is assembling and selling
- Other companies sell similar equipment
- For funding, apply for a DHS Grant through NCEM



As of February 2009, North Carolina State Animal Response Team (SART) is assembling and selling CAMETs.

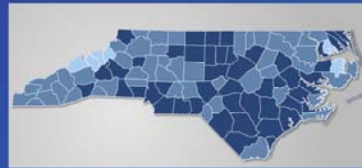
Other companies in other states sell similar equipment.

Your county may apply for funds to pay for a CAMET from a Department of Homeland Security Grant through North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM).

County to County Request



- County to county assistance request
- Need Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
- Obtain approval from NCEM



A county may request to use another county's CAMET through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Prior approval must also be obtained from the NC Division of Emergency Management.

Create Partnerships



No CAMET in your county?

- Form a partnership with a county that does have a CAMET
- Make preparations before there is an event in your county
- Train and exercise with your partner county and their CAMET



Requesting a CAMET (1)



- Use county to county assistance request as first option
- Request CAMET from NCEM Regional Branch/Regional Coordination Center (RCC)
- NCEM Regional Branch/RCC will fill request with regional CAMET asset, if available



If a nearby CAMET is not available, a county may place a CAMET request to the NCEM Regional Branch/Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

NCEM Regional Branch/RCC will coordinate regional CAMET resources and make a request to the State-level NCEM if no CAMETs are available in their region.

If necessary, NCEM will request a CAMET from other states via an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request.

When the request is filled Emergency Management will deliver the CAMET to the desired location.

Requesting a CAMET (2)



- NCEM Regional Branch/RCC will make CAMET request to State-level NCEM
- State-level NCEM will use EMAC request if no CAMETs are available in North Carolina
- When the request is filled NCEM will deliver the CAMET to the desired location



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Preparing for a CAMET



- Identify the appropriate leadership
- Plan ahead for sheltering location
- Obtain necessary approval
- Identify companion animal shelter staff
- Receive and host appropriate training



Identify Leadership



- Local Animal Control
- County Emergency Management
- County Animal Response Team (CART)
- Local Agriculture Extension Agents
- Understand your county's sheltering plan for evacuation type events



Local Animal Control is the best place to start when your county is considering purchasing a CAMET. In most counties in North Carolina Animal Control is the lead agency for issues involving animals, regardless of the presence of a County Animal Response Team (CART).

Plan Your Shelter



- Identify potential places for pet shelter based on whether shelter will be co-located or not
 - School
 - Warehouse
 - Fire station
 - Animal shelter
 - Church
 - Fairgrounds



First identify potential places to set up a pet shelter.

Some sites being used in counties in North Carolina include:

- schools (locker room, gym, or hallway)
- warehouse, fire station (it's next to human shelter and has small number of cages pre-positioned due to frequent ice storms)
- county animal shelter (or local humane group shelter)
- church (gym or hallway)
- fairgrounds

Shelter Planning Team



- Identify a team to conduct a site visit
- Select team members based on your county's emergency plans
- Possible team partners:
 - Animal Control
 - Emergency Management/Services
 - Public Health
 - School or school board
 - American Red Cross



Use your county's Emergency Management Plan to identify and gather your sheltering team members.

Depending on your shelter location, potential team members include: animal control, public health, school or school board representative, police, fire, American Red Cross.

Shelter Approval Process



- Local Emergency Management works with county partners to obtain the necessary approval for shelter locations
 - Facility managers
 - Local school board
 - County commissioners



Different shelter locations will require approval from various agencies, boards, and organizations. If a school will be used as a shelter you may need to get approval from the school board and the county commission. In one county in North Carolina, an old local law had to be changed to allow pets to be sheltered in a school.

Shelter Assessment



- Is your shelter facility normally used for human activities?
- Contact local health department to arrange a Shelter Assessment
 - Emergency Programs Field Veterinarian
 - Industrial Hygienist
 - Facility Managers
 - County EM
 - Other appropriate partners



If your shelter location is normally used for human activities, there are several issues you must address.

A shelter assessment team can include partners from NCD&CS Emergency Programs Division, a public health industrial hygienist, location facility managers, county Emergency Management, other agencies based on your county's sheltering plan and possible shelter location.

In North Carolina industrial hygienists are trained to consider air flow patterns, which are extremely important to reduce contamination of areas where humans may be (both for allergen and pet waste removal issues).

Location Considerations



- Consider appropriate staging of equipment
- Examine the details of air flow in HVAC systems, animal waste disposal, and other issues



If your shelter location is normally used for human activities, there are several issues you must address.

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In North Carolina industrial hygienists are trained to consider air flow patterns, which are extremely important to reduce contamination of areas where humans may be (both for allergen and pet waste removal issues).

Identify Shelter Staffing



- Find shelter staffing before a disaster!
- Animal Control and Emergency Management are usually the lead agencies
- Contact your County Animal Response Team (CART) coordinator
 - visit www.ncsart.org
 - CARTS operate under the authority of NCEM



Good resources for sheltering information include Animal Control, County Animal Response Team (CART) coordinator (www.ncsart.org), Veterinary Response Corp member (www.ncvrc.org), or your local veterinarian. These groups of people will be a great source of knowledge to help with the flow of the shelter since they do it every day at their practices and/or shelters.

Other Shelter Staffing



- Volunteers are key
- Local Veterinary Response Corps members (www.ncvrc.org)
- NC Cooperative Extension good resource
- Local humane groups & veterinary clinics best source for trained personnel
- Shelter training can help increase interest and recruit potential staff



Prepare with Training



- Receive and conduct training for your shelter
- Incident Command System (ICS) training is a good foundation
- Assign roles and responsibilities to your pet sheltering team to encourage appropriate training



NCD&CS Emergency Programs Division, NC Division of Emergency Management, and NC SART are good sources for training information and resources.

ICS training available online through FEMA's Independent Study Program:
<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>

Recommended Training



Shelter management training & credentials:

- **County-specific shelter training**
 - Basic biosecurity and county EOP
- **Incident Command System (ICS) 100**
- ICS 200
- NIMS 700
- Biosecurity awareness
- HazMat awareness
- State/County EOP



Recommended training/credentials for shelter management:

- Yellow = minimum training needed for shelter management
- SART/VRC credentialed staff have completed all of the items listed

Each county is responsible for developing their own plan for animal response. Shelter managers should receive this county specific training prior to opening a shelter.

ICS and National Incident Management System (NIMS) training available online through FEMA's Independent Study Program: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>

EOP stands for Emergency Operations Plan.

The NC Animal Disaster Sheltering Resources website (www.ncagr.gov/oep/Sheltering) can provide template documents to help your county begin the planning process.

The NCDACS Emergency Programs Division will provide animal sheltering guidance but cannot develop specific county trainings because each county has unique issues that need to be addressed locally.

Shelter Training



- NC Animal Disaster Sheltering Resource web page:
www.ncagr.gov/oep/sheltering



A great place to start gathering information is on the internet at:
www.ncagr.gov/oep/Sheltering
There are guidelines, policies and sample forms.

Points to Remember



- CAMETS can be activated/released only by County or State Emergency Management personnel
 - Not NCDA&CS, SART etc.
- NCSART can assist in the purchasing of a CAMET
- Appropriately prepare to use CAMET before requesting/purchasing one!

