

**REGIONAL ANIMAL
SERVICES
CONFERENCE**

DECEMBER 2, 2015

Do's and Don'ts of Starting A County Animal Response Team

History

- Appointed Animal Control Administrator in 1998
- In 2002 asked by LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) if I had updated the County Animal Control Plan to include terrorism
- Guess What???

- It did not nor ever did exist
- Embarrassing
- Continued to attend LEPC meetings
- My first exposure to Emergency Management
- **Don't** be intimidated by Emergency Management language and hierarchy

Do you speak FEMite?

- At this time LaSalle County's emergency management consisted of ESDA (Emergency Services and Disaster Agency)
- ESDA was the left over county civil defense
- Almost non functional

- Continued to Flounder in the water over next several years trying to find time and knowledge to write Animal Control Plan
- Attended as many meetings as I could
- Had privilege to be only veterinarian attending the Illinois Terrorism Task Force- a 2 day seminar in May 02

- November 04 attended SART Summit
- Sponsored by IDOA (Illinois Department of Agriculture)
- Theme was building a SART (State Animal Response Team)
- Given by North Carolina (Leaders in Emergency Management)

- IVERT (Illinois Veterinary Emergency Response Team) was already in place
- IVERT took over as SART
- IVERT puts on meeting every year

- Eureka!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Concept of CART (County Animal Response Team) is BORN
- I do not have to do this alone!!!

- Meanwhile Back at the County

- A real LaSalle County EMA(Emergency Management Agency) was formed with an excellent EMA Director, Mike Jobst
- More help
- Worked with Mike to develop the LaSCART (LaSalle County Animal Response Team)

- The best and smartest thing I did!!
- Hand picked volunteers-Excellent people
- Picked for their expertise
- Picked for their ability to **PLAY WELL WITH OTHERS!**

- Be Careful!!
- Overloaded with Food Animal and Equine members
- Not enough Small Animal members
- Although, everyone cross trained for each team
- Forty-something Team or Fifty-something Team-Not enough young members to pick up the flag for the future

First Meeting 1-26-06

- Hand Picked volunteers
- Illinois State Police
- Ottawa Police Dept.
- LaSalle County Health Department
- Red Cross
- LaSalle County Board Members
- Animal Control Warden

Finances

- Started with ZILCH
- Used Animal Control budget (already run on a shoestring) for office supplies
- 2007 –County board budgeted \$5,000 for us through the County EMA and have continued this through present
- Never know when they will cut you Off!!!!

Finances

- Early 08 we received a \$5,000 grant from private foundation- LaSCART member applied for it
- June 08 received \$5,000 grant from LaSalle Nuclear station-because we participated in IPRA (Illinois Plan for Radiological Accidents)exercise
- LaSCART has a seat in the EOC

Grants and Yearly budget from County
EMA used to buy Trailers and Equipment

Closed trailer and an open top trailer for
gates and a skid

Difficult decisions on equipment
purchases!!

- How much is enough
- Justifying high dollar equipment that
we may never need

Open trailer with gates, skid and T-Posts







Closed Trailer





LaSCART

**LaSalle County
Animal
Response
Team**



R and P Carriages
www.NeedaTrailer.com





HONDA EM 5000S

ENGINE SW. START
OIL ALERT
WHEN OIL LEVEL IS LOW ENGINE STOPS IMMEDIATELY

CIRCUIT BREAKER ON/OFF
CIRCUIT PROTECTOR
PUSH ON/OFF

VOLTAGE SELECTOR
120V ONLY
120V/240V

AC OUT 120V
15A 120V/240V
20A 120V/240V
20A 120V/240V

Duracraft Pro
1200 WATT PORTABLE
HALOGEN WORKLIGHT

5/48

Union Tools



LaSalle County EMA Center Built in 2010







Lessons Learned

- Balance Team better with different expertise
- Balance better with age- Recruit young members as well as us old and wise members!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Get the word out-People still do not know who we are

Do hand pick volunteers that play well together then set membership guides

Don't overload your team with 1-2 types of volunteers

Do get volunteers of all ages- Difficult to find younger volunteers

Don't be afraid to start a CART

- Start small and build
- Coordinator does not have to be a veterinarian or county employee
- Just someone that will commit

Don't try to do it by yourself

Do delegate responsibility and tasks

What Kind of Team

- EMA?
- Animal Control?
- CERT?

Citizens Emergency Response Team

CART Plan

Don't reinvent the wheel

Find a plan in existence- then change and format the plan to fit your County

Training

Do train, train and more training

Do field and training exercises

Do table top exercises

Do invite speakers to meetings

Minimum FEMA Requirements To Be NIMS Compliant

IS-100 Intro. to Incident Command System

IS-700 Nat'l Incident Management System

IS-200 ICS For Single Resources

IS-800 Nat'l Response Framework: Intro.

IS-10 Animals in Disasters: Awareness

IS-11 Animals in Disasters: Comm. Planning

IS-111 Livestock in Disasters

Don't overload your TEAM with Testing

Require the IS-100 and IS-700 and encourage TEAM to add testing as they progress

Training Exercises





Activation: What CART Does

Activated 4 times

Overtured Cattle Truck on I-39- 57 head feeder cattle- 6-2-2007

Sheridan Flood- Evacuated goats and 2 horses- 8-24-2007

1 steer loose on I-80- 2007

Streator Tornado- 2010

Overturned Cattle Semi-Trailer







You are the Experts



Don't be afraid of the Powers To Be

Do be assertive when the incident has been assessed and you know you are RIGHT















Finished-Empty Trailer



Sheridan Flood





























STREATOR TORNADO 2010

Team activated for 2 days

Day 1- Set up staging area and picked up stray dogs

Day 2- Walked area(door to door) offering assistance for pets











Pride

- Very proud of our team
- Activated 4 times- 2 major
- LaSCART members performed as a well organized professional team

Goals

- Recruit new members to make sure LaSCART stays active
- Table top exercises
- Field exercises
- Help other counties start CARTs
- In future start a mutual aid (like MABAS) Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Words of Wisdom

- What we do today, tomorrow, next week, next month **DEFINES** what happens
- In the first minute, the first hour, the first day of a disaster!

My Motto

- Plan and be ready for that which you hope never happens.