

ANIMAL RESCUE: WHY IT MATTERS

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Photo Credit: www.dailymail.co.uk



Photo Credit: www.daytondailynews.com/



Louisiana 2005

Photo Credit: <http://thevoiceforthevoiceless.blogspot.ca>

GOT A PLAN?

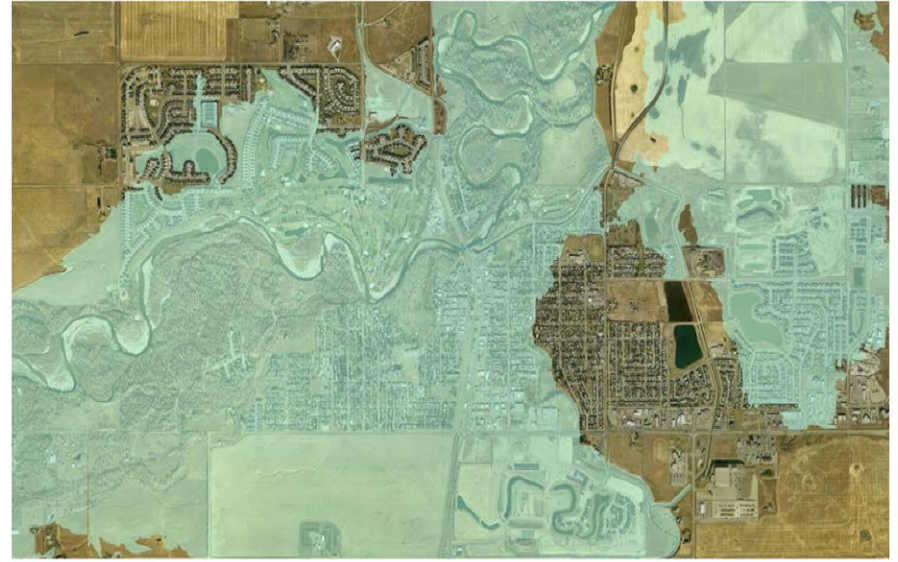
DESTROYED BY FLOOD WATERS



OVER 13,000 PEOPLE WERE EVACUATED

59% OF THE LAND IN HIGH RIVER WAS
INUNDATED WITH WATER

APPROXIMATELY 70% OF BUILDINGS
WERE DAMAGED BY WATER



50% OF COMMUNICATIONS
INFRASTRUCTURE WAS DAMAGED

4 GAS LINES WERE BROKEN

11/12 LIFT STATIONS WERE AFFECTED

ANIMAL RESCUE OPERATIONS

POTENTIAL FOR OVER **5,000**
HOMES TO HAVE ANIMALS

PETS RESCUED: **1,143**

OVER **400** PETS FED AND
WATERED IN THEIR HOMES

REUNITED **90%** OF PETS
WITH FAMILIES

75 ANIMALS WERE ADOPTED
BY NEW FAMILIES



CHALLENGE 1: PRIORITIZATION



WHAT WE LEARNED



PEOPLE PRIORITIZE PETS

NEED DEDICATED RESOURCES

**NOTHING GETS PUBLIC
ATTENTION FASTER**

**IF YOU DON'T...SOMEONE
ELSE WILL**

CHALLENGE 2: VOLUNTEERS



WHAT WE LEARNED



ISSUES IN THE FIELD:

- SAFETY/LIABILITY
- ACCOUNTABILITY
- DOCUMENTATION/RECORDS

**PARTNER AGENCIES ARE
CRITICAL**

**UNDERSTAND PARTNER AGENCY
POLICIES AND LIMITATIONS**

CHALLENGE 3: COORDINATING HOME ENTRY



WHAT WE LEARNED



HAVE A PLAN!

**OPERATIONS FOCUS ON THEIR MISSION...AND
CANNOT ALWAYS SEE AREAS FOR COLLABORATION**

DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT

CHALLENGE 4: BUILD THE RIGHT TEAM



WHAT WE LEARNED

HAVE A BACKUP PLAN...YOUR FIRST CHOICE MIGHT NOT BE AVAILABLE

**IDENTIFY SPECIFIC ROLES
ON TASK FORCES:**

- SECURITY
- ANIMAL HANDLER
- TRANSPORT

UTILIZE AGENCIES WITH THE RIGHT EXPERTISE



ANIMAL RESCUE MATTERS!



To RECAP

- PEOPLE PRIORITIZE ANIMALS – SO YOU SHOULD TOO
- IF YOU DON'T, SOMEONE WILL
- FIND A ROLE FOR UNTRAINED VOLUNTEERS
- DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT!
- USE AGENCIES WITH THE RIGHT EXPERTISE
- HAVE A BACKUP PLAN

WHAT WE'VE DONE

- DEVELOPED AN ANIMAL RESCUE PLAN
- DEDICATED FACEBOOK PAGE AND PHONE LINE
- PRE-IDENTIFY TASKS FOR VOLUNTEERS



DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!

NO guidebook



Photo via Flickr user [Orin Zebest](#)

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING...



FIND YOUR PARTNERS!





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