



College of Veterinary Medicine

Policies and Procedures

Subject: ***Boarding Animals During an Emergency***

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Boarding Animals During an Emergency

During a large-scale emergency involving state-wide evacuations and in which a state of emergency has been declared, the MSU-CVM is **dedicated to the support of sick and injured animals**. Therefore, in order to maintain this support of sick and injured animals, healthy animals will NOT be accepted for boarding. We will assist the public in finding boarding for their pets or by providing information on where to locate pet friendly shelters and hotels.

During unexpected or short-term emergencies, people may show up at the Wise Center with their pets for refuge. In these circumstances, LARAC personnel, MART personnel, and a designated CVM shelter coordinator will be in charge of activities.

- Persons should be informed regarding which Wise Center entrance to use. Generally this will be the large animal corridor on the east end of the building by the admissions desk.
- As needed, cages will be placed in the large animal corridor on the east end of the building to house the animals. All animals must be contained or leashed and may not be allowed to roam freely throughout the area.
- Any persons arriving to the CVM with pets for refuge must sign-in with the designated coordinator.
- Animals presented for boarding must be free of contagious disease and current on vaccinations against preventable diseases. These vaccination requirements will be consistent with primary care best practices.
- All pets should have some form of identification (permanent identification preferred). All animals will be provided with a cage card and/or identification band.
- Owners must agree to provide care for their pets, including provision of food and water as necessary and cleaning up waste.
- If the need for further human shelter is warranted (such as a tornado), animals may not accompany their owners into the designated human shelter area. Persons unwilling to leave their pets are encouraged to seek shelter in inner rooms or empty stalls away from windows.
- Public pet owners may not enter into the hospital areas including the operator's desk, cafeteria foyer, and restrooms.

Boarding policies following local, isolated emergencies such as tornadoes, fires, floods, etc., will be dealt with on an individual basis depending on amount of animals injured or displaced.

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