



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



January 1, 2015

To: Parish Presidents / Parish Emergency Managers

From: John Walther
Director of Emergency Programs

Re: Act 615, (SB 607)

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry reminds you that Legislative Act 615 requires an annual plan for the humane evacuation, transport, and temporary sheltering of service animals and household pets from each parish. The act names the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry as the repository for the parish pet plan. This plan is due in our office by March 1st each year. We need to prepare for hurricane season, so submission of your pet emergency plan cannot be delayed.

There are many guidelines for safely transporting and housing pets and there are also readily available resources to help parishes develop a workable plan. Animal control directors or animal emergency coordinators may be best suited to advise parishes on transporting pets, shelter set-ups and other needs. Call our office or visit the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry website at www.ldaf.state.la.us if you need assistance with your parish pet emergency plan.

Please submit a hard copy of your parish pet emergency plan by March 1st to the following address:

Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Office of Animal Health and Food Safety
Veterinary Health Division
Post Office Box 1951
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
or email to:
animalplan@ldaf.state.la.us

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Walther", written over a horizontal line.

John S. Walther
Assistant Commissioner
Director of Veterinary Health Division
Director of Emergency Programs
Office of Animal Health and Food Safety
Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry