

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 11

PRIMARY AGENCY: Department of Agriculture

SUPPORT AGENCIES: Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
Department of Health
Fish and Boat Commission
Game Commission
Historical and Museum Commission
American Red Cross
Penn State Cooperative Extension Service
United States Department of Agriculture
United States Agriculture Cooperative Extension

I INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

1. To support state, and municipal efforts to provide emergency nutritional assistance to citizens and their animals (pets and livestock);
2. To support state and municipal efforts to ensure the safety and security of the supply of human and animal food to Pennsylvanians and to those customers of Pennsylvania agricultural community.
3. To support state and municipal efforts to control and eradicate outbreaks of highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease or pests, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation.
4. To provide state-level backup and coordination of local efforts to alleviate the disaster-caused suffering of domestic animals.
5. To support state, and municipal efforts to protect natural, historic and cultural resources prior to, during, and/or after a natural disaster or other emergency.

B. Scope

1. Emergency food support includes identifying sources of and obtaining and arranging transportation for ice, human food, animal feed and water to designated staging sites in the affected area.

2. Potential operations include: researching governmental food programs and stockpiles, negotiating with food suppliers, developing a food procurement strategy, organizing a food transportation plan, coordinating with private and volunteer groups, analyzing staging sites, and establishing a temporary food assistance program
3. The Pennsylvania State Animal Response teams (PaSART) and County Animal Response Teams (CART) will attempt to protect public and animal health, alleviate suffering of domestic pets and livestock, and reduce the impact to the economy during an emergency. (See SART Plan, published separately)
4. Emergency operation of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) food inspectors may include citation or closure of eating or food/feed processing establishments, seizure of contaminated or adulterated food or animal feed or embargo or quarantine of certain sources.
5. PDA will monitor damage to and the impact of the disaster/emergency on the agricultural community, ascertain the amount of support available from state and federal agricultural resources, and report unmet needs through the State EOC to the Disaster Recovery Task Force (see ESF #14).
6. Outbreaks of infectious animal and plant disease or pests may need to be contained, and are generally the responsibility of the PDA, in conjunction with other state and federal agencies (See the Pennsylvania Highly Infectious Animal Disease Plan – Published Separately).
7. ESF 11 will also identify historical, cultural or natural resources that may be at risk during an emergency, oversee efforts to protect them, track damages and assist in restoring damaged resources to their pre-disaster state.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

A significant disaster event may deny human and animal populations access to food and water, may create conditions that prevent individuals with food supplies from preparing food properly and transporting as necessary, may displace a population from their homes and create a widespread need for ice, food and water or may render normal food supplies unusable. Plant disease or pests may cause loss of available food or feed supplies. The event may endanger the lives of domestic and farm animals, and may endanger public health due to animal/zoonotic disease

or pests, and may cause permanent damage to agricultural community infrastructure or natural, cultural or historical resources in the Commonwealth. This event may happen because of a sudden natural or technological phenomenon or because of slow-developing disease or drought.

B. Assumptions

1. The extent of damage to the infrastructure of the affected area, in addition to the peculiarities of the transportation network in the area, may influence the strategy or pattern of assistance.
2. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will work closely with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to monitor emergency and potential emergency situations, and will have access to USDA and FDA assets in responding to the emergency.
3. Food supplies intended for human populations will be suitable for either household distribution or congregate meal service.
4. Commercial and retail food storage facilities may be inoperable as a result of widespread power failure; thus, some privately-held, large-volume food supplies may be available as donated goods.
5. The Pennsylvania Donations Management Plan (published separately) provides guidance in organizing food collection and distribution efforts.
6. Pennsylvania has an abundance of natural resources that come under the purview of the Department of Conservation of Natural Resources and the Game Commission.
7. Pennsylvania has a wealth of historical and cultural treasures that come under the purview of the State Historical and Museum Commission.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Close cooperation will be maintained with other ESFs, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ensure that nutritional support to shelters, surveillance of potential public health issues in agricultural and forest locations and inspections of the public food supply to ensure the continuity and safety of food production and processing.
2. Food assistance will be made available, in cooperation with ESF # 6, until the need for emergency relief in the affected area has

dissipated sufficiently so that individuals and families can provide adequate food supplies for themselves through traditional methods and sources.

3. Close coordination with ESF #1 and #13 will be maintained to ensure that the transportation network will be available to provide food or feed assistance.
4. To the greatest extent possible, storage and staging sites will be located at existing food-service facilities in order to use infrastructure in those facilities.
5. Continuous monitoring of Pennsylvania's agricultural community will ensure that contamination or food-borne diseases are contained in the smallest possible area.
6. Solutions to unmet resource needs and requests will be obtained from other state departments and agencies, or forwarded to ESF #7.
7. Requests for use of agricultural resources will come through ESF #7. They will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
8. Food and feed supplies will be evaluated to ensure their suitability for consumption. Food supplies may be diverted to animal feed after suitable review by FDA and PDA feed regulatory offices.
9. PDA will exercise its legal authority to quarantine or withdraw from distribution any agricultural product or food/feed that is suspected of being contaminated or adulterated.
10. If agricultural products or food/feed prove to be dangerously contaminated or adulterated, PDA will seek a court order to seize and destroy them.
11. Suspected intentional contamination or adulteration of agricultural or food products will be referred to ESF #13 as a criminal matter.
12. State Department of Agriculture laboratories, inspectors and other resources will be made available to respond to the needs of disaster response and recovery efforts.
13. State and County Animal Response Teams (SART & CART) may be activated to assist with response to the emergency regarding both domestic and production animals.

14. ESF #11 members will monitor response activities to ensure that appropriate care is taken to preclude any unnecessary damage to natural, cultural and historical (NCH) resources.
15. Damage to Natural, Cultural and Historical (NCH) resources will be documented and efforts made to prioritize the restoration of these important resources to pre-disaster condition.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Primary Department or Agency: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

1. Act as the Primary Agency for all ESF #11 activities. Coordinate the assignment of responsibility and resource needs of supporting agencies.
2. Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
3. Ensure team members receive shift-relief from their respective organizations at appropriate intervals, as additional personnel are available.
4. Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
5. Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
6. Deploy emergency response team representatives to the state EOC, as requested by PEMA, for the coordination of emergency response activities.
7. Collect and report to PEMA, in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Council of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, information on agricultural damage and the disruption of agricultural product supply and distribution.
8. Assist in the alleviation of immediate agriculture problems, including the disruption of product supply and distribution.
9. Assist in the identification of shelters for domestic and agricultural animals that are affected or endangered by the disaster/emergency.
10. Conduct, in coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection, agricultural sampling for analysis of radiation effects following a nuclear or other hazardous materials incident.

11. Assist in the emergency distribution of food products, as requested by PEMA.
12. Supply technical advice and assistance in the alleviation of public health hazards, including actions associated with the food/feed or vector-transmitted disease outbreaks and vector control activities.
13. Supply technical advice and assistance in the inspection and disposal of damaged or contaminated food/feedstuffs and commodities and decontamination of household goods.
14. Assist the Department of Public Welfare and American Red Cross in the distribution of food to victims of the disaster.
15. Conduct, in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Council of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the specialized damage survey and reporting required to support a state request for federal aid to residents of rural areas.
16. Disseminate, in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Council of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the cooperative extension of the Farm Services Agency (FSA), information in the availability of federal assistance to farmers and on procedures for filing applications.
17. Implement, when appropriate, special legislated state farm aid programs to assist in alleviating unusual disaster problems in agricultural areas.
18. Provide trained representatives to disaster recovery centers established as the result of a Presidential declaration of a major disaster or emergency.
19. Coordinate the mitigation of damage or contamination to agricultural (crops, fertilizer, feed or pesticides), dairy and food products.
20. Coordinate with the Department of Health (DOH), USDA and DEP for the collection of product samples and the disposition of damaged or contaminated food/feed and other agricultural products based on FDA criteria.
21. Provide field teams for the purpose of taking samplings of agricultural (seeds, feeds, fertilizers, or pesticides), dairy or food/feed products for analysis.

22. Provide laboratory analysis of samples.
23. Inform the Governor, through the State Recovery Task Force, on the status of operations in regard to food chains.
24. Work with the State Recovery Task Force to determine short and long-term agricultural and land management activities (e.g. soil removal, crop rotation, and tillage), to reduce future damage or contamination of feed and food crops.
25. Provide a process to reduce the long-term impact of the incident on markets for State and local agricultural products and goods.
26. Work with federal partners (USDA, FSA, etc) to coordinate the availability and application of federal resources.
27. Act as lead agency in any response to identify, contain and eliminate diseases and/or pests, plants, and animals which may be detrimental to agriculture, animal health or public health.
28. Coordinate the application for and the administration of any federal declaration of an Agricultural Emergency (if warranted).

B. Support Agencies:

1. Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

- a. Determine priorities for animal sheltering, feed, food, ice, and water requirements.
- b. Draft emergency proclamations and state requests for federal disaster and emergency declarations and associated federal assistance.
- c. Coordinate the supply of essential manpower and materials for state, county and municipal emergency operations.
- d. Assist affected counties in the conduct of a coordinated damage assessment, which considers the broadest context of damage, both tangible and intangible.
- e. Coordinate federal, Commonwealth, county and municipal disaster recovery management activities.
- f. Determine the need for, maintain information on and procure materials, supplies, equipment, facilities and services necessary

for disaster recovery activities.

- g. Supply technical information, advice and assistance in procuring available federal and Commonwealth emergency assistance.
- h. As designated grantee, accept and coordinate federal public assistance for the Commonwealth by administering the public assistance office established within the Joint Field Office.

2. Department of Conservation of Natural Resources

- a. Provide guidance and assistance in identifying and destroying wild animals that may be carrying hazardous diseases.
- b. Provide assistance in identifying plant diseases and pests, and assessing damage to the Commonwealth's forestry resources.
- c. Monitor those natural resources and related facilities that may be affected by the emergency.
- c. Assist the State Recovery Task Force (SRTF) in restoring damaged natural resources to their pre-disaster state.

3. Department of Environmental Protection

- a. Provide advice and technical assistance regarding the effects of hazardous chemicals or nuclear materials
- b. Assist with sampling of crops and the environment after a chemical or nuclear release.
- c. Provide assistance with, to include emergency permitting for, the disposal of contaminated plant or animal matter.

4. Department of Health

- a. Make laboratories and resources of the Department available as they relate to human health.
- b. Deploy emergency response team representatives to the state EOC, as requested by PEMA, for the coordination of department emergency response activities.
- c. Survey and report to PEMA and municipal officials information about public health hazards, actual or potential, and take actions required to eliminate such hazards.

- d. Provide, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection, technical advice and assistance in the alleviation of public health hazards associated with exposure to hazardous materials releases, actual or potential, and on safeguarding the health of the public.
- e. Establish necessary precautionary measures in coordination with county/municipal public health departments and public health providers, as well as other state departments/agencies within the affected area, to prevent or reduce any threat to public health, including vector control.

5. Fish and Boat Commission

Provide guidance and assistance in identifying and destroying wild animals that may be carrying hazardous diseases.

6. Game Commission

Provide guidance and assistance in identifying and destroying wild animals that may be carrying hazardous diseases.

7. Historical and Museum Commission

- a. Assist with the identification of culturally and historically significant facilities that may be affected by the disaster
- b. Provide technical assistance in the restoration of facilities damaged by the emergency.

8. American Red Cross

Work to ensure food, ice, and water are provided in adequate amounts and equitably distributed.

9. Penn State Cooperative Extension Service

- a. Assist in surveillance of agribusiness and agricultural facilities for suspicious animal or crop issues.
- b. Report suspicious events/activities to the PDA regional office and other appropriate authorities.
- c. Assist in identification of affected farms and other facilities that are damaged by the emergency

- d. Assist in dissemination of information to affected populations, especially in rural areas.

V. **ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS**

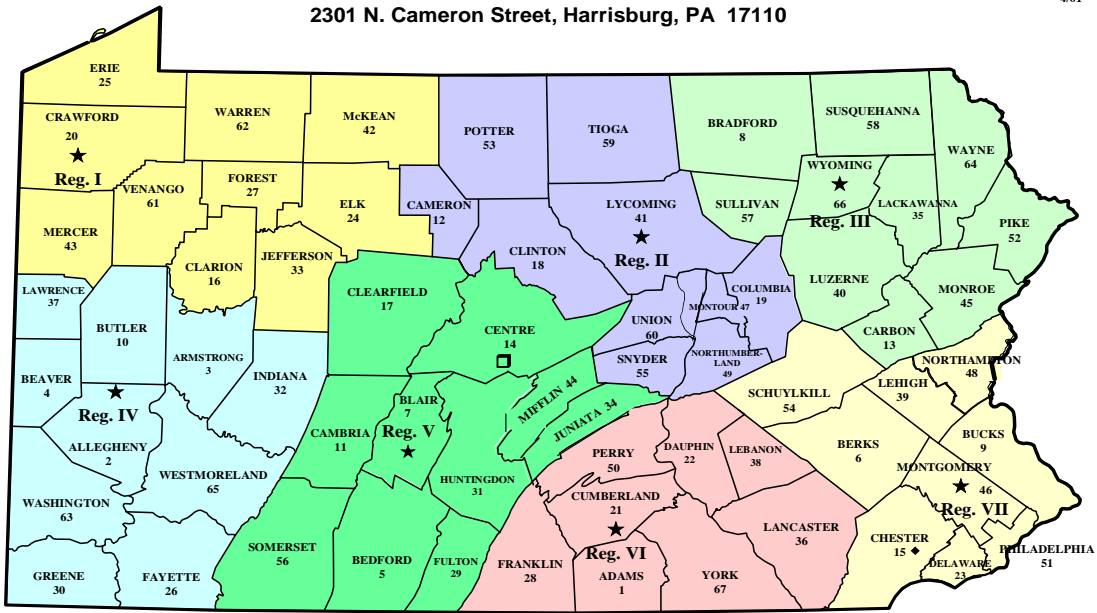
- A. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will establish and maintain liaison with various chapters of the American Red Cross that have been activated in support of human sheltering and feeding activities, USDA and other agencies involved with agriculture, and with PaSART and various County Animal Rescue Team (CART) activities.
- B. Additional technical manpower support requests will be coordinated through the Department of Health.
- C. Items not found in the stockpile will be diverted from the supply stream as needed.

FIGURE 8:

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Regional Map

FIGURE 8: Pennsylvania Agriculture Regional Map

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2301 N. Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110



REGION I
 Linda Field
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 Meadville, PA 16335
 (814) 332-6890

REGION II
 Paul Schatz
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 Montoursville, PA 17754
 (570) 433-2640

REGION III
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 Tunkhannock, PA 18657
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REGION IV
 John Scott
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 Gibsonia, PA 15044
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REGION V
 David Mankamyer
 1307 7th Street
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REGION VI
 Thomas Oylar, Jr.
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 Harrisburg, PA 17110
 (717) 346-3223

REGION VII
 William Zollers
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 Creamery, PA 19430
 (610) 489-1003

- Meat Animal Evaluation Center- Glenn Eberly
- ◆ PA Equine Toxicology Research Laboratory-Dr. Cornelius Uboh

Deleted: Emergency Support
 Function # 11