



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB READY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR ANIMALS AFFECTED BY HURRICANE ISAAC

Raleigh, NC — As Hurricane Isaac sweeps through the Gulf region, the American Kennel Club (AKC®) and AKC Companion Animal Recovery stand ready to provide relief where it is most needed for animals and the people helping them.

“We are greatly saddened that the Gulf states have to face this disaster, especially on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina,” said Dennis Sprung, AKC President and CEO. “We have ongoing contact with AKC club members on the ground in the hurricane-stricken states to help as many pets and owners as possible. Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone affected by the storm.”

[AKC Companion Animal Recovery](#) (AKC CAR), which provides 24-hour pet recovery services, is ready to make supplies and other assistance available to the Gulf Coast authorities in counties affected by the hurricane.

The AKC is working to identify local animal shelters and animal control agencies involved with rescue of animals that have been affected by the disaster. In past disasters, AKC and AKC CAR have coordinated donations in the form of crates, containment pens, food and other necessary supplies as well as cash donations.

Club members or local residents are encouraged to share specific needs for disaster relief for pets affected by the hurricane with AKC CAR at sxs2@akc.org.

Seven years ago after Hurricane Katrina, AKC and AKC CAR, working with the Florida Association of Kennel Clubs (FAKC) and the Houston Kennel Club, sent relief teams to visit local temporary shelters to offer help to local canine relief workers in Louisiana and Mississippi. Staffers determined direct needs and provided supplies like crates, bowls, collars, leashes and other equipment for the dogs. AKC and AKC CAR were able to bring immediate relief to workers caring for dogs and to the pets in the disaster region.

In addition, AKC, AKC CAR and FAKC worked with St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center to coordinate an airlift effort to rescue many dogs left homeless as a result of Hurricane Katrina. That airlift, the first of many, sent approximately 100 dogs by private charter

plane from Baton Rouge, LA, to Madison, NJ to the newly-established “Katrina K-9 Care Center” in Mendham Township, NJ.

Donate to the Cause

Donations are made possible by the AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund, a charitable fund which provides resources, support and other assistance to not-for-profit animal shelters and similar not-for-profit organizations providing care for domestic animals orphaned or displaced as a result of natural or civil disasters.

The public may contribute to the AKC-CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund and all such contributions are tax deductible. Click [here](#) to donate now.

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The American Kennel Club (AKC), proudly celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit www.akc.org.

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