



We are veterinarians, animal health technicians, and veterinary students who have volunteered to assist animal owners and local officials in responding to animal emergencies in our respective counties.

At present there are over 250 members and we are recruiting more. Anyone who would like to join this very important project, please contact the MVMA office for more information.



*For more information on the Missouri Volunteer Veterinary Corps, contact:*

Missouri Veterinary Medical Association  
2500 Country Club Drive  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65108  
Phone: 573-636-8612  
Fax: 573-659-7175  
Email: [mvma@mvma.us](mailto:mvma@mvma.us)  
Website: [www.mvma.us](http://www.mvma.us)

## **National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps**

USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services (VS) will need your help to combat disease threats to U. S. livestock and poultry.

- With the cooperation of the AVMA and the North American Veterinary Technician Association, VS is working to establish a roster of private and state animal health technicians and veterinarians for VS' National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps (NAHERC).
- Technicians and veterinarians can be activated quickly to serve as temporary federal personnel to help meet an emergency.
- Veterinarians and technicians can supplement APHIS' existing employees for periods of 3 weeks for domestic deployments to 30 days for international deployments.
- The current salary rate for veterinarians and animal health technicians depends on experience. It is generous and all expenses are paid.
- After enrollment in the program you will be on a list of potentially available personnel. However, deployment during an emergency is voluntary.
- Please contact the MVMA office for more information about the NAHERC program.

MOVVC-4-09

# **Safeguarding Animal and Public Health in Missouri**



A Project of the  
Missouri Veterinary  
Medical Association



## Who We Are and What We Do

- The Missouri Volunteer Veterinary Corps (MOVVC; "The Corps") is a project of the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association.
- The Corps is made up of Missouri veterinarians, animal health technicians, and veterinary students who have volunteered to respond to animal emergencies.
- The Emergency Management and Public Health Committee (EM and PH) of the MVMA will coordinate activities of The Corps and provide members with emergency notices and educational materials.
- The Corps will report its activities to the Executive Board of the MVMA through the EM and PH Committee chairperson.
- Emergencies may include outbreaks of exotic animal and poultry diseases or natural disasters as they affect animals, such as flood, fire or tornado or ice storm.
- Department of Homeland Security Directives require that each county have an animal disaster response plan. Members of The Corps will assist local animal interest groups and officials in the design of these plans. County plan templates are available from the MVMA.



## Relationships

The MVMA supports The Corps by maintaining the membership database and assisting the EM and PH Committee with the distribution of emergency management information to members by e-mail and through the web site, [www.mvma.us](http://www.mvma.us). Members of The Corps are required to have high-speed internet connection for ease of communications.

The Corps will report any reportable animal or zoonotic disease directly to state and federal animal and public health officials. We will be available to these officials for assistance during a response to a disease emergency.



Andrea Booher/FEMA Photos

## Rationale

- Protecting agriculture in Missouri requires cooperation, participation and partnership and begins locally.
- State or federal assistance to deal with an animal disease emergency may not be available for hours or days.
- Animal agriculture in Missouri is highly vulnerable to severe disruption and financial loss through natural disasters and exotic or zoonotic diseases.
- Counties must be prepared to respond to animal disasters through planning and identification of human and material resources.
- Natural disasters are unpredictable and cannot be prevented.
- It is unlikely that an outbreak of an exotic animal disease in Missouri can be prevented.
- Livestock producers and veterinarians will be first to identify an outbreak of an unusual animal disease. Veterinarians will refer reportable diseases to the State Veterinarian.
- The Missouri State Veterinarian and the MVMA will provide training in the National Incident Management System and foreign animal and zoonotic diseases to members of MOVVC through on-site and on-line courses. This training is required for credentialing of emergency responders by the Department of Homeland Defense.

