



Pennsylvania State Animal  
Response Team (PASART)  
2605 Interstate Drive  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9364

# PASART POLICY

## NO. P2011-3

**SUBJECT: Veterinary Care for Animals during an Emergency**

**DATE: May , 2011**

### I. **PURPOSE**

To establish a policy for accessing veterinary care for animals during disasters.

### II. **GOAL**

Establishes a uniform policy statement regarding veterinary care during disasters.

### III. **POLICY/Procedure**

It is the policy of PASART to support the appropriate medical care of animals during disasters.

The medical treatment of animals is the arena of licensed PA veterinarians under the PA Veterinary Practice Act. PASART and CART's were founded to deal with emergency preparedness for animal emergencies, not to provide veterinary care.

In emergencies where CART's are deployed, emergency animal care decisions are to be made by a licensed veterinarian or the animal owner (if available). No CART's may be involved in animal treatment beyond providing immediate First Aid nor should any CART's be raising money for animal treatment.

It will serve every CART well to have arrangements with local veterinarians for the referral of ill or injured animals that they may encounter. However, be sure to note that referral of any animal does not carry with it any financial liability for treatments assignable to PASART or any CART.

In the event that local resources are overwhelmed, CART Coordinators shall notify the Executive Director of PASART to request additional assistance that cannot be gained through ordinary mutual aid channels.

### IV. **APPLICABILITY**

This policy applies to all PASART members and CART members.