

Welcome to this issue of the Washington State Animal Response Team's monthly newsletter! Find out what the President has to say, what deployments we've been on, where the next meetings will be, and where we'll be with upcoming events. [View this email in your browser](#)



www.washingtonsart.org

Helping Animals & Their Owners in Disasters

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From The President

Are You Ready?



October 2015's Hurricane Joaquin dropped 15 inches on residence of North Charleston, prompting residents to leave flooded areas. Photo by Ryan Johnson for the [City of North Charleston, CC licensed](#), no changes made.

In a large animal rescue, much of the more expensive equipment needs to be replaced for safety reasons.

It's only possible because of you.

[Donate](#)

General Meetings

December 14, 2016
Shoreline Fire Department,
Station 61
17525 Aurora Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98133

The General Membership Meetings are held from **7 p.m. - 9 p.m.** The first hour is spent on WASART business and the

As I was mowing the yard a few evenings ago, my mind began to wander as it so often does. My first thought was 'I really hope this is the last mow of the year...' – it probably won't be. And my second thought was to go through a mental checklist of emergency supplies for my dog, Norman. Among other things, I've swapped out the food, water and treats for new supplies; he's got his crate and bedding; extra leashes collars and ID; and other people know where everything is, in case I'm not able to get home. I then realized that my dog is better prepared for an emergency than a lot of other humans. If you're reading this, you and your

final hour is a mini-training session on a subject of interest to members. And, of course, some social time, too. All General Membership Meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

Upcoming training

Register at
<http://bit.ly/WASART2017>

Open House

January 21, 2017

10:00 - noon

Location TBD

Fundamentals (f/k/a Core)

February 4, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location TBD

Animal Handling

& Assessment

(f/k/a Field Response)

March 25, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location TBD

Emergency Animal

Sheltering

April 22, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location TBD

May 13, 2017

Transport

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location TBD

Open House (repeat)

August 27, 2017

10:00 - noon

Location TBD

Fundamentals (f/k/a Core)

(repeat)

September 17, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location TBD

Animal Handling &

Assessment

(f/k/a Field

Response)(repeat)

animals are probably at least as prepared as Norman and I are.

This is the time of year, though, when we may have different kinds of food or plants around our homes. The ASPCA has a great resource list of food items that are not safe for animals: [People Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pets](#)

And here's a list of toxic and non-toxic plants for animals: [Toxic and Non-Toxic Plants](#)

Be safe, be aware, and Happy Halloween.

Shawndra Michell

President

WASART Gains A Second AKC Trailer



WASART is the fortunate recipient of two sheltering trailers from AKC Reunite and local AKC chapters.

The generosity of local breed clubs and individuals has again resulted in an American Kennel Club (AKC) Pet Disaster Relief Trailer being donated to WASART in September, 2016 by [AKC Reunite](#). This 16 foot trailer is fully stocked with supplies and equipment needed to set up an emergency animal shelter for animals displaced by a disaster. This is the second trailer of its kind in the greater Puget Sound. It joins the first, identical,

October 1, 2017
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Location TBD

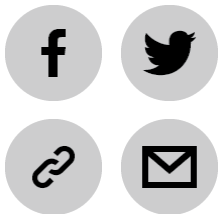
Annual Exercise
October 21, 2017
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Enumclaw Expo Center
45224 284th Ave SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Upcoming events

Did you know we're often available to talk to your group about WASART or disaster prep?

Mission Statement

To help animals and their owners through disaster preparedness, education, and emergency response.



trailer that was donated to WASART, again by AKC Reunite, in November 2015.

One of the trailers will be staged in Enumclaw to handle animal related sheltering emergencies in south King, Pierce, Thurston and more southern counties while the other trailer will be staged in Snohomish to be available wherever needed along the northern I-5 and I-90 corridors. Many local Washington breed clubs donated to these two trailers and WASART is now in an excellent position to respond more efficiently and quickly with needed supplies and trained personnel anywhere in Washington that our services are requested.

Safety Concerns Cancel Training



An unexpected storm during the Carlton Complex Fire's emergency sheltering presented challenges.

This year's Annual Exercise was cancelled due to safety concerns. The event was scheduled October 15, the same day as the worst of two storms with predicted winds up to 75 mph was expected to land. After much deliberation and consulting available resources, the Annual Exercise team made a decision weighted heavily by safety concerns.

It's a difficult decision to cancel an event that requires the amount of planning and logistics the

Annual Event requires. Animal owners trusting us with their pets and livestock give up their weekends to allow us the opportunity to sharpen our skills. Volunteers spend months planning the event, including what activities will take place and getting all the right equipment ready and in place. The attendees travel to train with us, and then back home again. Some of them are hauling trailers and the forecast of high winds as well only adds to their risk.

As an organization that focuses in part on disaster preparation and relief, the cancellation was the only real option. Though the weather ended up being a non-issue, we feel a decision that reinforces our commitment to safety-first leadership was appropriate. Our volunteers and animal owners are important to us, and we are glad everyone made it through the weekend healthy and alive.

CERT Credentials Follow-up



CERT volunteers train to help their community during disasters. Photo by [Joe Loong](#), [CC licensed](#), no changes made.

We previously reported in [August's newsletter](#) about CERT's new credentialing as it relates to WASART. This is a follow-up to that original information.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is designed to train citizen responders to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their community when professional responders are not available. Nine of the CERT teams of King County are implementing a new credentialing system for their first responders.

The Redmond CERT team recently announced their new credential levels. Like the Kirkland CERT, they follow the same three levels, with Level 1 being the most experienced and highly trained responders. The City of Redmond has determined that only CERTs at Level 1 or 2 will be deployed by the City. They do not self-deploy. Additionally, only Level 1 or 2 CERTs will have badges.

Similar to the new Kirkland regulations, Redmond requires additional training for their advanced CERTs. And once again, WASART membership is a substitute for some of the additional training requirements for Level 2 CERTs! While the number of hours and amount of training for eligibility are yet to be determined, it is an honor that the Eastside CERT leadership recognizes WASART training in this way.

For more information on WASART trainings, visit www.washingtonsart.org/training. For more information on the new CERT levels, visit www.CERTEastside.com.

2016-2017 Training Dates



2017 Training Dates

Open House – January 21st, August 27th (no registration needed)

Fundamentals – February 4th, September 17th (repeat)

Animal Handling & Assessment – March 25th, October 1st (repeat)

Sheltering – April 22nd

Transport – May 13th

Annual Exercise – October 21st (tentative)

Technical Rescue – Monthly, contact the [Technical Rescue Chair](#) for info)

Register for 2017

You can register for 2017's trainings at <http://bit.ly/WASART2017>. Questions? Check with [Training Director](#).

P.S. We have exemptions for veterinarians and search and rescue members. Check with the [Training Director](#) for details.

WASART NEWS is a publication of the Washington State Animal Response Team (WASART) published on or about the 15th of each month. WASART is an all-volunteer, 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Mail us at: WASART, P.O. Box 21, Enumclaw, WA 98022.

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