



Washington State Animal Response Team (WASART)

Code of Conduct

WASART volunteers or representatives shall comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations and with WASART policies and regulations including the policies described herein. Incident Commanders (IC) have authority to deactivate any activated WASART volunteer or representative for behavior that violates this Code of Conduct.

All WASART volunteers or representatives shall:

1. Project a professional manner and appearance while participating in all related activities.
2. Identify operations that are beyond their capabilities based on their qualifications, experience, training, and knowledge.
3. Provide and carry professional credentials and display WASART's ID badge at all times during activation.
4. Observe safety rules and regulations and proper usage and operation of all equipment.
5. Accept assignments and/or orders as directed by the Incident Command System (ICS), Incident Commander or other supervising authority, or if required, make discretionary decisions based on appropriate intent and good judgment.
6. Not participate otherwise in operations that serve to promote personal gains or ideologies.
7. Not enter private properties to perform duties without the express, written permission of the owner, supervising authority, or without a law enforcement escort.
8. Remain in contact with the appropriate ICS authority, and confine activities to the assigned mission and directives of the Incident Action Plan.

9. Document or participate in documenting each rescue in a timely manner and submit documentation to the commander.
10. Not transport animals to facilities other than those that have been approved by the supervising authority.
11. Refrain from taking photographs out of respect for the privacy of the owner. In the event that photographs are taken, they will not be used for public display without the expressed written permission of the owner.
12. Not accept any personal donations and shall direct all such donations to the appropriate person.

In addition, the following will not be tolerated while on site at a call-out, disaster, meeting, conference, or other WASART activity:

- Consumption of alcoholic beverages while on duty;
- Display of public drunkenness;
- Possession, use or selling of any illegal drugs;
- Violation of any laws;
- Public outbursts or derogatory remarks about other organization or individuals;
- Illegal use or display of a firearm; or
- Carrying a firearm on a call-out, even with a concealed weapons permit, without the previously obtained express permission of the Incident Commander of that call-out.

CERTIFICATION: I have read the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the rules set forth herein. I also understand that this statement will become a permanent part of my volunteer personnel file.

NAME (Print)

SIGNATURE

DATE