

**Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**

ESF Coordinator:

- St. Louis County Police Department, Office of Emergency Management

Primary Department(s):

- St. Louis County Department of Health
- St. Louis County Department of Park & Recreation
- St. Louis County Department of Human Services

Support Department(s):

- St. Louis County Police Department, Office of Emergency Management
- St. Louis County Department of Judicial Administration
- St. Louis County Department of Justice Services
- St. Louis County Department of Planning
- St. Louis County Department of Revenue

Supporting Agency(s):

- Humane Society
- American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)
- Animal Protective Association (APA)
- Others as deemed necessary

I. PURPOSE

ESF #11 supports local authorities in efforts to:

- Provide nutrition assistance
- Control and eradicate, as appropriate, any outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic (i.e., transmitted between animals and people) disease, or any outbreak of an economically devastating plant pest or disease
- Ensure the safety and security of the commercial food supply
- Protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties (NCH) resources
- Provide for the safety and well-being of household pets during an emergency response or evacuation situation.

ESF #11 is activated for incidents requiring a coordinated response and the availability of support for one or more of these roles/functions.

Actions initiated under ESF #11 are coordinated and conducted cooperatively with local incident management officials and with private entities, in coordination with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as required.

Each supporting agency is responsible for managing its respective assets and resources after receiving direction from the primary ESF #11 agency for the incident.

II. SCOPE

ESF #11 includes five primary functions:

1. Providing nutrition assistance

Includes working with agencies to determine nutrition assistance needs, obtain appropriate food supplies, arrange for delivery of the supplies, and authorize the Disaster Food Stamp Program.

Food supplies secured and delivered under ESF #11 are suitable either for household distribution or for congregate meal service as appropriate for the incident.

Transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area are arranged by the Department of Human Services and voluntary organizations.

The St. Louis County Department of Health and the St. Louis County Department of Human Services officials coordinate with and support agencies responsible for ESF #6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Disaster Housing, Human Services that are involved in mass feeding as well as encourage the use of congregate feeding arrangements as the primary outlet for disaster food supplies.

Priority is given to moving critical supplies of food into areas of acute need and then to areas of moderate need.

Department of Human Services officials, upon notification that commercial channels of trade have been restored, may authorize the use of Disaster Food Stamp Program procedures.

2. Responding to animal and plant diseases and pests

ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services will provide veterinary assistance to ESF #11. Support will include the amelioration of zoonotic disease and caring for research animals where ESF #11 does not have the requisite expertise to render appropriate assistance. This includes implementing an integrated local response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease.

Animal and plant disease and pest responses are conducted in collaboration and cooperation with State authorities and private industries to ensure continued human nutrition and animal, plant, and environmental security.

When addressing animal diseases, all animal depopulation activities are conducted as humanely as possible while stopping pathogen spread and limiting the number of animals that must be euthanized. Disposal methods for infected or potentially infected carcasses and plant host material are chosen for their effectiveness in stopping pathogen spread and for their minimal impact on the environment.

Actions taken during an animal or plant emergency are guided by and coordinated

with local emergency preparedness and response officials.

3. Ensuring the safety and security of the commercial food supply

ESF #8 in coordination with ESF #11 includes the execution of routine food safety inspections and other services to ensure the safety of food products that enter commerce.

This includes:

- Assisting with ensuring the health and safety of food-producing animals, animal feed and therapeutics.
- The inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants, products in distribution and retail sites, and import facilities at ports of entry
- Laboratory analysis of food samples
- Control of products suspected to be adulterated
- Plant closures
- Food-borne disease surveillance
- Field investigations.

These efforts are coordinated by St. Louis County **Department of Health**.

4. Protecting NCH resources

Includes appropriate response actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore NCH resources. This includes providing post-event baseline assessments of damages and providing technical assistance and resources for assessing impacts of response and recovery activities to NCH resources. These efforts are coordinated by the St. Louis County Department of **Parks and Recreation**.

St. Louis County Department of **Parks and Recreation** is the primary agency for the NCH component of ESF #11.

Actions initiated under ESF #11 to protect, preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore NCH resources are guided by the existing internal policies and procedures of the agencies providing support for the incident.

The organizations providing support for each incident coordinate with appropriate ESFs and other annexes to ensure appropriate use of volunteers and to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect the health and safety of all workers.

Each support agency is responsible for managing its respective assets and resources after receiving direction from the primary agency.

5. Providing for the safety and well-being of household pets

ESF #11 supports the EOC together with ESF #6, ESF #8, ESF #9 – Search and Rescue, and ESF #14 – Long-Term Community Recovery to ensure an integrated response that provides for the safety and well-being of household pets and service animals as well as dealing with at-large animals. ESF #8 in concert with ESF # 11

work to protect the health of companion and service animals. The ESF #11 effort is coordinated by St. Louis County Department of Health.

Animal evacuation and sheltering should be conducted in conjunction with human evacuation and sheltering efforts. Animals should be sheltered near their owners to the extent possible. Owners should be expected to provide food, water, husbandry, and exercise for their pets during the time they are in emergency shelters.

Businesses where animals are integral to operations (e.g., pet shops and veterinary hospitals) should be encouraged to have contingency plans in place for those animals in the event of a disaster or emergency.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

ESF #11:

- Organizes the ESF staff and support agencies based upon the five core functional areas described above. It organizes and coordinates the capabilities and resources to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for incidents requiring a coordinated response.
- Identifies, secures, and arranges for the transportation of food and/or the provision of food stamp benefits to affected areas and **ESF #6** in providing food for shelters and other mass feeding sites.
- Provides for an integrated local response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease deemed of Federal regulatory significance.
- Through the primary agency for NCH resources, organizes and coordinates the capabilities and resources of the St. Louis County Government to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for the protection, preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery, and restoration of NCH resources through all phases of an incident requiring a coordinated response.
- Supports the EOC together with **ESF #6, ESF #8, ESF #9, and ESF #14** to ensure an integrated response that provides for the safety and well-being of household pets during natural disasters and other emergency events resulting in mass displacement of civilian populations.

The ESF primary agency recognizes that there are other departments and agencies that may be called upon to provide assistance. The ESF primary agency reserves the right to call upon agencies and departments not listed in this annex, should the need arise.

IV. ACTIVATION

ESF #11 is activated upon notification of a potential or actual incident that requires a coordinated local response and support to help ensure one or more of the following:

- The availability and delivery of food products
- Food safety
- Appropriate response to an animal or plant disease or pest
- The protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties
- The safety and well-being of household pets.

The EOC issues operation orders and mission assignments to activate ESF #11 based on the scope and magnitude of the threat or incident.

The Office of the County Executive notifies the St. Louis County Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, which serves as the focal point for the County's emergency response and the formal point of contact for ESF #11 activation. The EOC in turn activates ESF #11 primary staff as required.

V. ORGANIZATION

When the assistance needed involves NCH resources protection, the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation provides direction and coordination.

For nutrition assistance, the St. Louis County Department of Health is the point of contact and coordinates response activities with other agencies.

For animal and plant disease and pest response, the St. Louis County Department of Health assumes primary responsibility.

For incidents involving the well-being of household pets, the St. Louis County Department of Health leads ESF #11's efforts.

For an incident involving the safety and security of the commercial food supply, the St. Louis County Department of Health assumes primary responsibility.

VI. ACTIONS

When ESF #11 is activated, the response is coordinated by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) at the EOC if necessary.

Actions to be taken by the St. Louis County Department of Health include:

- Determines nutritional assistance needs.
- Obtains appropriate food supplies.
- Coordinates veterinary services in affected areas.

- Coordinates with ESF #8 on animal/veterinary issues in disease situations and in other situations that develop during emergencies and natural disasters.
- Coordinates the response to a bio-hazardous event, the decontamination and/or destruction of animals and plants as well as associated facilities (e.g., barns, processing equipment, soil, and feeding and growing areas) may be required. Activities are conducted within agency capabilities.
- Conducts food-borne disease surveillance.
- Coordinates disposal of contaminated food products.
- Provides inspectors and laboratory services to affected areas.
- Ensures an integrated response that provides for the safety and well-being of household pets during natural disasters and other emergency events resulting in mass displacement of civilian populations.
- Provides technical support and subject-matter expertise regarding the safety and well-being of household pets.
- Conducts critical needs assessments for household pets.
- Expedites requests for resources to assist in evacuating and sheltering household pets.
- Ensures that all identified food is fit for human consumption.
- Provides information and recommendations to Unified Command for incidents involving an outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease, either of which could require quarantine actions or impact intrastate/interstate commerce.
- Coordinates assignment of veterinary personnel to assist in delivering animal health care to injured or abandoned animals and performing veterinary preventive medicine activities, including the conducting of field investigations and the provision of technical assistance and consultation as required.
- Engages in surveillance of food safety/security-related illness, injury, and other consumer complaints.
- Coordinates with ESF #9 on search and rescue operations for household pets.
- Coordinates with ESF #14 to ensure continued assistance is provided for household pets during long-term community recovery.
- Purchases and pre-positions animal, shelter materials in advance of emergency events.
- Provides health education in the areas of food preparation and storage.
- After diagnosis of disease, circulates warning notice to appropriate officials in order to facilitate a timely and efficient response.

Actions to be taken by the St. Louis County Department of Human Services include:

- Arranges transportation for food supplies.
- Determines the critical needs of the affected population in terms of numbers of people, their location, and usable food preparation facilities for congregate feeding.

- Identifies and locates geographically available food resources, transportation, equipment, storage, and distribution facilities.
- Coordinates shipment of food to staging areas within the affected area.
- Implements the Disaster Food Stamp Program.
- Establishes logistical links with long-term congregate meal services.
- Contracts for transportation for household pets and service animals in advance of emergency events.

Actions to be taken by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation include:

- Coordinates NCH resources identification and vulnerability assessments.
- Facilitates development and application of protection measures and strategies for NCH facilities.
- Manages, monitors, and assists in or conducts response and recovery actions to minimize damage to NCH resources.
- Coordinates with ESFs #3 – Public Works and Engineering and #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.
- Provides updated NCH facility resource lists.
- Determines the critical needs and resources available to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore NCH resources in consultation with local and private entities.
- Provides scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to NCH resources.
- Provides scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance for long-term recovery, restoration, preservation, protection, conservation, stabilization, or rehabilitation of NCH resources.
- Addresses long-term community recovery activities carried out under ESF #14 that involve NCH issues.

The St. Louis County Office of Emergency Management provides up-to-date geospatial data (maps) related to impacted NCH resources.

VII. PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Department	Function (See above for details)
St. Louis County Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Determines nutritional assistance needs. ➤ Obtains appropriate food supplies. ➤ Coordinates veterinary services in affected areas. ➤ Coordinates with ESF #8 on animal/veterinary issues in disease situations and in other situations that develop during emergencies and natural disasters. ➤ Coordinates the response to a bio-hazardous event, the

	<p>decontamination and/or destruction of animals and plants as well as associated facilities (e.g., barns, processing equipment, soil, and feeding and growing areas) may be required. Activities are conducted within agency capabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conducts food-borne disease surveillance. ➤ Coordinates disposal of contaminated food products. ➤ Provides inspectors and laboratory services to affected areas. ➤ Ensures an integrated response that provides for the safety and well-being of household pets during natural disasters and other emergency events resulting in mass displacement of civilian populations. ➤ Provides technical support and subject-matter expertise regarding the safety and well-being of household pets. ➤ Conducts critical needs assessments for household pets. ➤ Expedites requests for resources to assist in evacuating and sheltering household pets. ➤ Ensures that all identified food is fit for human consumption. ➤ Provides information and recommendations to Unified Command for incidents involving an outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease, either of which could require quarantine actions or impact intrastate/interstate commerce. ➤ Coordinates assignment of veterinary personnel to assist in delivering animal health care to injured or abandoned animals and performing veterinary preventive medicine activities, including the conducting of field investigations and the provision of technical assistance and consultation as required. ➤ Engages in surveillance of food safety/security-related illness, injury, and other consumer complaints. ➤ Coordinates with ESF #9 on search and rescue operations for household pets. ➤ Coordinates with ESF #14 to ensure continued assistance is provided for household pets during long-term community recovery. ➤ Purchases and pre-positions animal, shelter materials in advance of emergency events. ➤ Provides health education in the areas of food preparation and storage. ➤ After diagnosis of disease, circulates warning notice to appropriate officials in order to facilitate a timely and efficient response.
<p>St. Louis County Department of Human Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arranges transportation for food supplies. ➤ Determines the critical needs of the affected population in terms of numbers of people, their location, and usable food preparation facilities for congregate feeding. ➤ Identifies and locates geographically available food resources, transportation, equipment, storage, and distribution facilities. ➤ Coordinates shipment of food to staging areas within the affected

	<p>area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implements the Disaster Food Stamp Program. ➤ Establishes logistical links with long-term congregate meal services. ➤ Contracts for transportation for household pets and service animals in advance of emergency events.
St. Louis County Department of Parks & Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coordinates NCH resources identification and vulnerability assessments. ➤ Facilitates development and application of protection measures and strategies for NCH facilities. ➤ Manages, monitors, and assists in or conducts response and recovery actions to minimize damage to NCH resources. ➤ Coordinates with ESFs #3 – Public Works and Engineering and #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources. . ➤ Provides updated NCH facility resource lists. ➤ Determines the critical needs and resources available to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore NCH resources in consultation with local and private entities. ➤ Provides scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to NCH resources. ➤ Provides scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance for long-term recovery, restoration, preservation, protection, conservation, stabilization, or rehabilitation of NCH resources. ➤ Addresses long-term community recovery activities carried out under ESF #14 that involve NCH issues.

Support Department	Function
Office of Emergency Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provides up-to-date geospatial data (maps) related to impacted NCH resources.
Department of Judicial Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Departments of St. Louis County Government not assigned to a specific Primary role are assigned as having a Support role to each ESF. That support function can be in the form of personnel staffing or resource provision.
Department of Justice Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Departments of St. Louis County Government not assigned to a specific Primary role are assigned as having a Support role to each ESF. That support function can be in the form of personnel staffing or resource provision.
Department of Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Departments of St. Louis County Government not assigned to a specific Primary role are assigned as having a Support role to each ESF. That support function can be in the form of personnel staffing

	or resource provision.
Department of Revenue	➤ Departments of St. Louis County Government not assigned to a specific Primary role are assigned as having a Support role to each ESF. That support function can be in the form of personnel staffing or resource provision.

Support ESFs	Function
#3, #10	➤ Coordinates with ESF #3 and ESF #10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.
#6, #8, #9, #14	<p>Veterinary Medical Support</p> <p>➤ ESF #6, ESF #8, ESF #9, and ESF #14 support ESF #11 to ensure an integrated response that provides for the safety and well-being of household pets and service animals as well as dealing with at-large animals.</p>
#8	<p>➤ ESF #8 will provide veterinary assistance to ESF #11. Support will include the amelioration of zoonotic disease and caring for research animals where ESF #11 does not have the requisite expertise to render appropriate assistance.</p> <p>➤ Protects the health of companion and service animals.</p> <p>➤ Execution of routine food safety inspections and other services to ensure the safety of food products that enter commerce.</p> <p>➤ Assists with ensuring the health and safety of food-producing animals, animal feed and therapeutics.</p>
#9	➤ Coordinates with ESF #9 on search and rescue operations for household pets.
#14	<p>➤ Coordinates with ESF #14 to ensure continued assistance and consultation for household pets during long-term community recovery.</p> <p>➤ Addresses long-term community recovery activities carried out under ESF #14 that involve NCH issues.</p>