

We received our test results from IDEXX last Friday, late evening. We tested 36 canines at 3 buildings. Dr. Cynda Crawford at the University of Florida is our consulting veterinarian and suggested to Dr. Alverson that we test asymptomatic and symptomatic dogs as well as dogs taken in within 24-hours. Here is a link to more information about Cynda Crawford. She discovered the virus and is an expert on managing and resolving the virus. She has helped us in the past with other illnesses, and is a good friend. We are grateful to have her expertise and contacts.

<https://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/profile/crawford-cynda/>

The results were as follows:

Influenza A strain H3N2 + 26/36 (69% +)

**Woodlawn Impoundment Facility: 14/15 positive
(93%) including a dog that had come in that day.**

**Snow Drive and Hospital Adoption facility: 12/19 positive
(47%) w/4 positive for other causes of CIRDC**

Dogs are symptomatic at the City of Jasper facility as well. Their test results will be back later today.

Please let your members know that we are working hard to manage and resolve the issue with Dr. Crawford. We are also contacting adopters to let them know what to look for, and to contact their veterinarian if they see symptoms. We have issued a press release. We are telling the public to contact their veterinarian if they have specific questions about the virus, and to call boarding facilities, groomers, and dog daycares prior to visiting to determine if their protocols or vaccination requirements have changed. We are also letting other impoundment facilities in other counties know what we are experiencing and we are contacting other humane societies and rescues.

****National Animal Care & Control Association**

Definition of Priority-1 Functions During Disasters or Crisis (Natural or Man-made)

As members of the public safety community we have an obligation to perform our sworn duties during disasters or crisis, natural and man-made. To that end, NACA recommends animal care and control officers and facilities adopt a policy of implementing a Priority-1 status plan during a disaster or crisis. Examples of when a Priority-1 status order may need to be implemented include: an outbreak of Covid among employees that makes caring for animals or responding to calls difficult or impossible, outbreaks of highly contagious diseases among animals that may spread into the community including distemper or canine flu, and natural disasters such as hurricanes, wildfires, or tornadoes.

Priority-1 status is defined as changing routine impoundment and animal control functions as follows:

While on Priority-1 Status

Continue to respond to High Priority/Emergency Calls: While in Priority-1 status, officers should continue to respond to emergency and high priority calls.

Definition of High Priority/Emergency Calls: these calls include law enforcement assistance, severely injured or sick stray animals, cruelty and neglect complaints, bite complaints, and dangerous and aggressive dog complaints.

Suspension of Non-Emergency Calls and Activities: Officers should suspend low priority/non-emergency activity. This includes non-aggressive stray animal pick-up, leash law and licensing complaints, barking and nuisance complaints, the trapping and transport of community cats (unless exempted), and conflict mitigation scenarios.

Shelter Intake Reduction: Animal control and impoundment agencies should take active measures to **reduce non-essential shelter intake**. Measures taken should include returning pets in the field instead of impounding them, suspending non-emergency owner surrender intake, and encouraging owners who are ill with contagious diseases to keep their pets at home whenever possible.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Animal control officers should be provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) for highly contagious animal outbreaks (for example, distemper or CIV), or cases requiring a response to a location with someone who is sick or has been exposed to COVID-19. Officers should make every effort to not enter the home of anyone who is known to have been exposed to a highly contagious dangerous disease.