Cohabitated sheltering is an essential life saving measure to support people with pets who need sheltering during disasters.

Cohabitated means that people and their pets are sheltered together in the same area.

Produced under a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture.
**Cohabitated Human/Pet Sheltering Guide**

**SHELTER CHECKLIST**

- Notify local Emergency Management of shelter location, shelter support and resources needed. (Public Health and Safety, veterinarian, animal control, and humane group)

- Establish pet rules and define which pet species are allowed to cohabitate with their owners.

- Establish area to shelter pets not allowed to cohabitate with their owners.

- Identify and appoint someone to support and provide oversight for pets, social media, donations and security.

- Identify and register people with pets.

- Inform people with pets that they are responsible for their pets.

- Separate people with pets from people without pets.

- Separate by species, sick, aggressive, non-rabies vaccinated pets from the human population and other pets.

- Designate a secure pet exercise/relief area with access to waste disposal, separate from general population traffic.

- Require all pets to remain leashed or crated at all times.

- Report all bite cases to local authorities (Animal Control, Public Health, and Law Enforcement).

- Prepare to transition to alternative forms of sheltering.

**National Resource Links**

- CDC  [https://www.cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)
- FEMA  [https://www.fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)
- AVMA  [https://www.avma.org](https://www.avma.org)
- VOAD  [https://www.nvoad.org/](https://www.nvoad.org/)
- RED CROSS  [www.redcross.org/](http://www.redcross.org/)
- NARSC  [thenarsc.org/](http://thenarsc.org/)

**SHELTER RESOURCE LINK: [www.ldaf.state.la.us](http://www.ldaf.state.la.us) Animal Health and Food Safety**

- Shelter Forms
- Public Health & Safety Information
- Service Animal
- Volunteer registration
- Bite Protocol
- LSART Shelter Manual  [www.lsart.org](http://www.lsart.org)