



Georgia Department of Agriculture

19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SW • Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4201

Gary W. Black
Commissioner

ANNOUNCEMENT

Animal Health Requirements for Evacuees

October 5, 2016

Effective immediately, Animal Movement Health Requirements for pets, equine and livestock entering and travelling within the State of Georgia will be waived for evacuees from Hurricane Matthew. This includes a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (Health Certificate), a Coggins test for equine and vaccination requirements for pets. The Georgia Department of Agriculture is providing this temporary waiver in order to facilitate the rapid and safe evacuation of people and animals from the path of Hurricane Matthew. This temporary waiver will be in effect until the evacuees are able to return to their homes. It is recommended that all evacuees check with their home regulatory authority to determine what will be required for them to return to their state of origin.

This temporary waiver of Animal Movement Health Requirements DOES NOT APPLY to animals entering or moving within Georgia that do not belong to evacuees. All other animals must follow normal Animal Movement Health Requirements.

The Georgia Department of Agriculture is extremely concerned for the safety and well-being of evacuees and their animals. Prior to evacuation, it is recommended that a specific destination be established. It is understood and expected that accepted animal safety procedures and animal health practices will be observed while transporting animals to their temporary destinations. Please remember any special needs that your animals may require such as medications, blankets, cages, food and water.

Please visit the Georgia Department of Agriculture website at www.agr.georgia.gov for information and tips on emergency preparedness.

Robert M Cobb Jr DVM
State Veterinarian
Division Director of Animal Industry
404-656-3671