Caring for Animals during a Natural Disaster is Focus of July 25 UNH Workshop

By <u>Sharon Keeler</u> UNH News Bureau

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DURHAM, N.H. -- When natural disaster strikes and people panic or are evacuated, what happens to the animals?

This topic is the focus of a Tuesday, July 25, workshop at the University of New Hampshire. Part of the July 24-28 New England Animal Control/Humane Academy, the workshop takes place in UNH's Memorial Union Building Theater from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Participants include animal care and control personnel, veterinary staff, boarding kennel staff and others who help when disasters strike.

Keynote speaker is Shirley Minshew, North American emergency relief coordinator for the International Fund for Animals. Minshew has been involved with caring for animals after natural disasters since Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Since then, she has been involved with animal rescue nationally and internationally for earthquakes, tornadoes, floods and hurricanes.

During her career, Minshew has worked in animal shelters, was a cruelty investigator, veterinary technician and wildlife rehabilitator.

The New England Animal Control/Humane Academy was established in 1980 to provide quality, cost-effective, in-depth training for animal care and control professionals in New England. Other topics to be covered include equine emergencies, trouble shooting wildlife problems and dealing with sea-living creatures.

For more information, contact Jerilee Zezula, D.V.M., associate professor of applied animal science in UNH's Thompson School of Applied Science, at 603-862-1025, or by email at jaz@cisunix.unh.edu.

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