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### Osceola County Animal Services offers FL SARC Disaster Training Class

**Lakeland**: Florida is hit with disasters that impact our animals every single year. SPCA Florida is on a mission to save dogs and cats when natural disasters and man-made disasters strike.  Trained volunteers with Florida State Animal Response Coalition, better *known* as FL SARC, ensure these animals have someone on their side when they need it the most.  When you join our team, it gives FL SARC the power to:

* Respond to local, state, and national disasters
* Deploy emergency resources and trained responders
* And transport animals to safety before, during, and after a disaster

To register to become a lifesaving volunteer, go to SPCAFlorida.org and click on FL SARC training.

An opportunity to take the Awareness Level Small Animal Emergency Sheltering class on Saturday, August 27, 2022 at Osceola County Animal Services in St Cloud, FL. The Awareness Level (Level 1) class will provide the knowledge and skills needed to work in an emergency animal shelter as a trained professional disaster animal responder.

“This training will help us function better as a team and become more efficient in our response to meet the community’s needs in a declared disaster. We have been SARC members for many years and value the training that is offered. One of our own staff members, Officer Heath Ford, will be presenting this training in August. He is passionate about helping the community and understands the importance of keeping people and pets safe” states Osceola County Animal Services Director, Kim Staton.

Class is open to anyone interested in being trained to help companion animals during a disaster. Additional training classes will be listed on the website below as they are scheduled.

<https://flsarc.org/training>

When disaster strikes, together, we will be ready.

**About SPCA Florida**

*Founded in 1979, SPCA Florida exists to eliminate animal suffering and engage the entire community in the welfare and well-being of animals. SPCA Florida will help and heal 20,000 dogs and cats through its SPCA Florida Animal Medical Center and provide direct care for 6,500 animals through its Adoption Center this year. Ani-Meals and Food Assistance Programs, provide food and medical care for animals of homebound families and families who need supplemental food for thousands of dogs and cats each year.*

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