

# Animal Health Update

News from the Wisconsin State Veterinarian

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection • Division of Animal Health • 608-224-4872 • [animals@wisconsin.gov](mailto:animals@wisconsin.gov)



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SPECIAL EDITION

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## Intro to the Animal Response Corps: Give us a listen, get a free meal, earn CEUs

We're re-invigorating, expanding and renaming the Wisconsin Veterinary Corps. Our new and improved volunteer group will be called the Animal Response Corps - ARC, for short. We're kicking it off with introductory sessions scheduled around the state, so you can find one fairly close to you.

Dr. Darlene Konkle is our new Animal Emergency Coordinator and ARC director. She's aiming to expand the corps beyond veterinarians to veterinary technicians and assistants, and anyone else who is skilled in handling animals, both large and small.

ARC will be an "all-hazards" team, but initially, we plan to focus on animal disease outbreaks. Eventually, we plan to also provide services when animals are involved in natural and manmade disasters -- from tornadoes to train wrecks, from floods to spills.

Join us for a light supper and to hear more, including tales from some of our district veterinarians who have worked in headline-making diseases outbreaks:

- **Rice Lake** -- Monday, Sept. 22, Turtleback Conference Center, West Allen Road ([map](#))
- **Wausau** -- Tuesday, Sept. 23, Stoney Creek Inn & Conference Center, 1100 Imperial Ave. (Rothschild) ([map](#))
- **Tomah** -- Wednesday, Sept. 24, Cranberry Country Lodge, 319 Wittig Rd. (on Hwy. 21 just off I-94) ([map](#))
- **Waukesha** -- Monday, Oct. 6, UW-Waukesha, 1500 N. University Drive, The Commons, Room C101 ([map](#) - park in Lot 3 or 4)
- **Madison** -- Tuesday, Oct. 7, State Agriculture Building (DATCP), 2811 Agriculture Drive, Board Room ([map](#))
- **Kimberly** -- Wednesday, Oct. 8, Liberty Hall Banquet & Conference Center, 800 Eisenhower Drive ([map](#))

All meetings will run 6-9 p.m. Please pre-register if possible, so we have idea of how many people to prepare for. Call or [email](mailto:margie.proost@datcp.wisconsin.gov) Margie Proost, 608-224-4877. And please share this announcement with others in your office: veterinarians, vet techs, and others who work well

with animals. Veterinarians and vet techs who attend will receive 2 continuing education credits.

This is a volunteer effort, but you'll get education and training in emergency response and foreign animal diseases, and the chance to network with your peers. And maybe the best benefit of all: You'll have an important role to play when disaster strikes, helping people and animals in your own community.

If you were part of the Wisconsin Veterinary Corps previously, please feel free to come to a meeting near you to get reacquainted. If you're not able to do that, please call or [email](#) Dr. Konkle (608-224-4902) if you're still interested or would at least like to remain on the email list to receive info from her.

We hope to see you soon.

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