

SWIFTWATER/FLOOD - ANIMAL RESCUE SPECIALIST

This class blends NFPA 1670 operational skills for swiftwater rescue, surface water rescue, and technical small animal rescue for application in a flood response. The class will also meet the criteria for FEMA Resource Typing Swiftwater/Flood Search & Rescue Technician-Animal Rescue Specialist. The class will start with a 2-hour classroom session to cover all the topics required and then break for an early lunch and meet at the field location. The rest of the afternoon will be field practicals and rescue scenarios. Topics this training will cover include capture equipment; animal behavior; triage and packaging; restraint techniques; animal rescue boat operations; animal rescue land-based human and animal rescue scenarios both land-based and boat rescue; large animal rescue problem solving; and any other basic refresher skills. The focus on the class will be small animal applications but we will discuss in length large animal scenarios as it seems to be more and more common.

PREREQUISITES: Participants must show proof of current SRT-1 or SRT-A certification from their agency Training Officer. Students must bring or rent: Dry suit, Class V rescue PFD with quick release strap, water rescue helmet, water draining footwear, rope gloves (optional), whistle (optional), appropriate dress for weather, personal PPE, etc.

ERIC THOMPSON



Eric Thompson is a graduate of Kansas University with a B.G.S. in Environmental Science and graduated from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center with his Police commission. Currently Eric is working as the Director of Disaster Response for Code 3 Associates and serves as the Past-Chair for the National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC). Eric also teaches and provides technical large animal rescue operations for the Emergency Equine Response Unit (EERU) based in Kansas City and is an instructor for the International Technical Rescue Association (ITRA). Eric is certified as a Swiftwater and Technical Rope Rescue Technician and in water, mud, rock, ice, fire and trailer rescues of animals. Eric has received over 25 certificates of achievement from FEMA regarding disaster response and planning and is working with several states as a disaster planning consultant by incorporating animal-related operations into existing Emergency Support Functions. Eric also instructs technical small Animal Search and Rescue classes (Swiftwater/Flood Ops/Ropes) that meet new NFPA 1670 guidelines for fire departments and first responders. For more information on available training, go to www.asartraining.org.