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## **NORTH CAROLINA SHELTERS FORCED TO CLOSE DUE TO FLOODING**

*Hurricane Matthew's Wrath Has Left Many Shelters Closed and Many Animals Homeless*

**CHARLOTTE, N.C., Oct. 12, 2016** – Several animal shelters in North Carolina have had to face the intensity of Hurricane Matthew this past week. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would like to bring awareness to the current plight that these shelters are facing. Many of these shelters are experiencing power outages, dwindling resources, and flooding, and therefore are no longer safe for the employees or the animals. These shelters have been evacuated. However, this means that many animals are in need of shelter, food, and other basic supplies. The ASPCA is reaching out to the public to donate their time and resources to aid those that have been affected. To learn more about how to help out, visit [www.aspca.org](http://www.aspca.org). On this website there will be several links such as where to donate, what is needed, and updates on the situation.

The ASPCA has been working with many shelters to try and find some relief for the employees, volunteers and the animals. So far, about half of the displaced animals have found temporary homes until the shelters can reopen. Some employees and volunteers have been able to foster the animals, but it is not enough. CEO Matthew E. Bershadker commented, “In this time of need, shelters are desperate for any type of aid. It has been incredibly rewarding in the past to see the national community of animal lovers band together to help out during these natural disasters. I know that I can trust the American people to come to the rescue again.”

### **About the ASPCA®**

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) is the first animal welfare organization in North America and serves as the nation's leading voice for animals. More than two million supporters strong, the ASPCA's mission is to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, the ASPCA is a national leader in the areas of anti-cruelty, community outreach and animal health services. For more information, please visit [www.ASPCA.org](http://www.ASPCA.org), and be sure to follow the ASPCA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). (ASPCA 1).

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## Works Cited

ASPCA. (2012, February 27). *ASPCA Rescues Hundreds of Cats From Animal Sanctuary in Madison County, Fla.* [Press release]. *ASPCA.org*. Retrieved November 1, 2016, from <http://www.aspca.org/about-us/press-releases/aspca-rescues-hundreds-catsanimal-sanctuary-madison-county-fla>