

15-1295

City of Manitowoc

SAFETY AND HEALTH POLICY

Lincoln Park Zoo Dangerous Animal Escape Procedure	Origination Date: November 23, 2009 Revision Date : TBD
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ADMINISTRATION POLICY IN REGARD TO THE ABOVE PROCEDURE IS:

A dangerous animal escape is defined as a situation where an animal that may cause injury to a human has escaped from the appropriate confinement area.

This directive will outline the City of Manitowoc Department of Public Infrastructure Dangerous Animal Escape Procedure for animals located at the Lincoln Park Zoo. All City of Manitowoc Department of Public Infrastructure employees may be involved in this procedure. During such an emergency, instruction from the City of Manitowoc Police Department should be followed as the highest priority.

All City of Manitowoc Department of Public Infrastructure personnel and those specifically assigned to the Lincoln Park Zoo are required to be familiar with this directive. The procedures are too complicated to learn during an animal escape. Simulated escapes will be regularly held to maintain proficiency.

A copy of the attached Dangerous Animal Escape Communication Chart will be posted in the Zoo Employee Office, the Parks Office and DPW, DPI offices and at the Police and Fire Department Headquarters.

DANGEROUS ANIMAL ESCAPE PRIORTIES:

The priorities following a dangerous animal escape will be in the listed order:

1. Protect the public and the City of Manitowoc employees.
2. Protect the escaped animal and the Zoo animal collection.
3. Protect the physical facilites of the Lincoln Park Zoo.

OBJECTIVES:

The directives will fulfill the following objectives:

1. Outline the method of communicating the escape to the appropriate personnel.
2. Describe precautions necessary to maximize personnel and public safety.
3. List the location of the equipment and procedure to immobilize the escaped animal
4. Provide a list of people qualified to assist with the immobilizationof the escaped animal and the requirement necessary to remain qualified.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

This procedure will only work if communications lines are kept open. All non-essential phone and radio use will cease when there is an animal escape emergency. Essential animal escape radio communications will be transmitted in a clear and unambiguous terms so that all staff listening can understand what is being said. All City of Manitowoc staff with radios need to visualize where the animal is, what the plan is to contain the animal, and what steps of the plan are completed or underway.

PRACTICE SESSIONS:

The City of Manitowoc Director of Public Infrastructure will engage in animal escape practice drills at irregular intervals coordinated with the City of Manitowoc Police Department. During practice sessions, each message announcing an animal escape will begin and end by saying "This is a practice animal escape session." During the practice sessions, selected employees will serve as surrogate escaped animals, and will be identified by a vests or a banner over their clothes. All employees should reassure visitors that this is only a practice session. Drill should be conducted as realistically as possible without disrupting City of Manitowoc Department Operations. For example, go to a gate to secure it and report that you have closed the gate without actually closing it. Drills should be conducted in a professional manner by all staff.

ANIMAL CAPTURE:

City of Manitowoc Public Infrastructure personnel who are not assigned to work at the Lincoln Park Zoo have duties listed below, but are NOT to approach or attempt to capture the escaped animal. Improper approaches or capture attempts may result in injury, death or increase the difficulty of capture.

ANIMAL ESCAPE PROCEDURES:

- A. THE PERSON WHO FIRST RECOGNIZES A DANGEROUS ANIMAL HAS ESCAPED WILL:
 - a. Keep the Animal in sight (if this can be done safely), if possible. If you are not sure if the animal that has escaped is dangerous, follow these procedures as listed. The Zoo keeper present will be responsible for deciding if the animal poses a danger, and what actions are appropriate. If there is no Zookeeper present the Director of Public Infrastructure or designee shall be contacted immediately.
 - b. Notify the City of Manitowoc Police Department (via radio or by calling 911) and indicate
 - i. Who you are, and where you are
 - ii. What animal has escaped (if you do not know what the animal is called, describe the animal.)
 - iii. The number of animals seen
 - iv. The animal's location and where it was heading
 - v. If and where an ambulance is required

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- c. Recruit additional City of Manitowoc Department personnel to assist in directing the public to safety.
 - d. Confine the animal within a building or enclosed area, if possible.
 - e. Via radio, notify all Department Employees to tune to the designated Police channel. If you are calling the City of Manitowoc Police via telephone, inform the dispatcher to make the announcement.
 - f. If a radio is available, broadcast updates on the animal's position on Police channel. The animal position and direction descriptions must be given in a easily understandable terms so all who are listening in have a clear conception of the situation.
- B. THE POLICE DISPATCH OPERATOR will (in the following order)
- a. From the call-in record the following information
 - i. Who is calling and from where
 - ii. What animal has escaped?
 - iii. Where the animal was last seen and where it was heading
 - iv. Whether and where an ambulance is required
 - b. Announce over the radio to City of Manitowoc Police Department Personnel (in the following order)
 - i. Animal Escape in Progress
 - ii. What animal has escaped
 - iii. Where the animal was last seen and where it was heading
 - iv. Repeat
 - c. Announce over the radio to the City of Manitowoc Public Infrastructure Personnel (in the following order)
 - i. Animal Escape in Progress
 - ii. What animal has escaped
 - iii. Where the animal was last seen and where it was heading
 - iv. Change radio to Police Channel
 - v. Repeat
- C. THE DEPARTMENT DESIGNEE WILL (in the following order)
- a. Contact the City of Manitowoc Department of Public Infrastructure (or designated staff member 920-686-6910)
 - b. Maintain open lines of communication
 - c. EMS Services (or 911) if needed.
 - d. Notify the Department of Human Resources Risk Management (920-686-6993)
 - e. Retry calling if any designated party does not answer.
 - f. Assist in maintaining open lines of emergency communication
 - g. Obtain an assistant and instruct them to stay with you. Maintain radio communications, consider public safety, monitor line of fire, and allow the On Scene Commander and others to focus on the animal.
 - h. Announce the All Clear over the Police and Public Infrastructure radio channels.

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D. POLICE DEPARTMENT – FIRST RESPONDING OFFICER- City of Manitowoc

- a. With the help of the Zoo Staff determine if the animal is dangerous, decide what procedures are to be followed, and clearly broadcast what decisions have been made. Broadcast information will be in terms easily understood by all Personnel including all DPI employees and responding Officers Information to be broadcast includes:
 - i. Who is the On Scene Commander
 - ii. How dangerous is the animal
 - iii. What is the general plan for animal control
 - iv. Changes in the plan as needed
- b. **Plan and implement** the method of capture or dispatching
- c. **Coordinate plan** with other officers and staff
- d. **Broadcast animal's position** over radio using the designated police channel. The animal position and direction description must be given in easily understandable terms so all who are listening have a clear conception of the situation.
- e. **Consult with the veterinarian** if chemical immobilization can be attempted to determine the interval between injection and immobilization.
- f. Notify all parties and members of the public of the All Clear when the emergency is over.

NOTE: The City of Manitowoc Police Department is defined initially as the first person to arrive at the scene to begin the animal control procedure if the One Scene Commander is necessary. In a non-dangerous animal escape, the City of Manitowoc Police may designate an appropriate Zookeeper or veterinarian as the On Scene Commander. **In the event, the On Scene Commanders identification must be annouced over the City of Manitowoc Radios using the designated Police channel.**

E. THE CITY OF MANITOWOC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PERSONNEL will:

- a. Obtain a radio from the Police Department upon their arrival.
- b. If necessary, assist the responding veterinarian with the anesthesia box and the designated enclosed vehicle.
- c. Load appropriate capture equipment – ropes, nets, blowpipe, extra radios, etc. Radio-on-Scene commander to indicate that the Veterinarian is on the scene. Transport the equipment and Veterinarian where directed by the On-Scene-Commander.

F. POLICE OFFICERS will:

- a. Position squad cars around the perimeter to monitor animal movements.
- b. Perform crowd control by clearing the area around the animal and, if appropriate, moving the public into buildings for safety.
- c. Aid in dispatching the animal if so directed by the On-Scene-Commander.
- d. Call for additional support and, if appropriate, other law enforcement agencies and equipment.
- e. If the animal escapes from Zoo grounds, assist in coordinating the operation with other agencies directly involved in the capture or control of the escaped animal and relay On Scene Commander information to the other agencies.

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G. CITY OF MANITOWOC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PERSONNEL WITH RADIOS will:

- a. Don orange identification hat or vest
- b. Immediately commandeer an enclosed vehicle for each person carrying a radio
- c. Collect other staff members in the vehicle for assistance.
- d. Follow instructions of the On Scene Commander (via Parks Representative to assist in public safety, animal capture blockage of access points, or gate closures.
- e. Direct the public to safe areas (See Crowd control Notes below)
- f. Radio when gate is closed or access point is blocked.
- g. Notify the other employee in their area of situation.
- h. Calmly move people to safe areas (e.g. in enclosed buildings) and assist in crowd control. Employees without an enclosed vehicle should remain in buildings. (Refer to Crowd Control Notes below)
- i. Post lookouts in safe places to monitor escaped animal movements.

H. 8TH STREET AND REED AVE ENTRANCE GATES will:

- a. Prevent all non- emergency vehicles from entering the park
- b. Allow people to leave the zoo, but be prepared to close the gates to prevent animal escape.
- c. Prevent public and unnecessary personnel entry.

NIGHT DANGEROUS ANIMAL ESCAPE PROCEDURE:

The following procedures will be followed in the event of dangerous animal escape occurs at night when zoo is closed.

1. The person who first recognizes that a dangerous animal has escaped will:
 - a. Notify the City of Manitowoc Police Department dispatch by radio or 911.
 - b. Keep the animal in site (if this can be done safely)
2. The Manitowoc Police will:
 - a. Radio the animal type, location, direction, and level of danger and info the sheriff of the location and type of any ongoing public events. If the animal is confined to an area or secondary enclosure give the Police Department the location. If the animal is mobile, keep them apprised of the location.
 - b. Contact the On Call person for the Department of Public Infrastructure to notify them of escape. (this will be done if the offices are closed for the evening). Otherwise notify the Director of Public Infrastructure or designee to implement the plan.
 - c. Assign one person to go to the administration building to serve as a fixed base of operations and communications. Have other employees close and lock the perimeter gates if the animal is still contained within the zoo, keep the public in safe area, and travel only in enclosed vehicles.
 - d. The animal will be monitored for its movements. Instructor not to shoot the animal unless there is an imminent threat to humans.
 - e. Follow the On Scene Commanders instructions with regard to contacting more people or return to monitor the animal and assist in public safety.
3. Obtain additional Police support as needed.
4. Assist in locating and monitoring the escaped animal.

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5. Perform crowd control by clearing the area around the animal and, if appropriate, moving the public into buildings, and relay team leader information to other agencies.

CROWD CONTROL NOTES:

Move people calmly into buildings and away from the escaped animal. State **“A dangerous animal has escaped. Please go to (indicate nearest safe location)You will be notified when the emergency is over”**

- a. Do not give specific information about what animal has escaped or where the animal is located.
- b. Send them to the Education Center, Red Barn or have them return to their cars and leave the Zoo grounds if appropriate.
- c. Do not argue with people – just explain that their safety is our first priority.

GUIDELINES FOR CAPTURING AN ESCAPED ANIMAL:

1. Keep the animal in sight (if it can be done safely)
2. An escaped animal is disoriented and frightened and is usually not aggressive, unless cornered. It will often seek safety in its home territory. If possible, leave the cage door open and the animal may return to its exhibit.
3. Herding the animal back to the exhibit or into an enclosed area may be possible using vehicles, shovels, fire extinguishers, or whatever is appropriate. Slow movements and low noise levels may help decrease the animal’s panic response.
4. Stay between the public and the animal, if possible.
5. Before firing capture equipment or other weapons, the dangers inherent in a stray bullet or syringe to the surrounding public vs the likelihood of the escaped animal hurting the public must be considered.
6. The On Scene Commander in charge (with the advisement from the Vet and Zoo staff most familiar with the animal.) will determine the capture method based on:
 - a. The immediacy of the danger. If the animal is unlikely to injure anyone, every effort should be made to capture the animal alive.
 - b. Induction times, after being drugged, are a factor and are listed on the dosage sheet. For example a cougar may be immobilized in less than ten minutes, but a black bear may take one hour before the drug is fully effective.

EQUIPMENT

The following equipment will be located at the Two Rivers Vet Hospital

An emergency box containing

- a. Labeled capture needles of various sizes
- b. Labeled capture dart syringe with pre-assembled tail pieces.
- c. A bottle of Telazol

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- d. A list by species of the recommended adult dosages of Telazol for capture including the dart syringe size, the needle size, and the approximated induction time.

NOTE: Also extra radios if available.

The Veterinarian will be responsible for ensuring that this equipment is properly maintained, and for maintaining an ammunition inventory. An emergency equipment checklist will be kept with the supplies.

Equipment will be in the **City of Manitowoc Police Department** squad cars

- a. .22 Caliber Rifle
- b. A chart indicating weapon, ammunition and target to use
- c. Binoculars
- d. High-intensity flashlight.

WEAPON USE:

1. The danger of a stray shot increases with the size of the weapon
2. Remember that the bullet may go through the animal. Be aware of what is behind the animal.
3. All weapons should be available for any dangerous animal escape to allow for backup use and options.
4. For large animals, (e.g. bison bears, cougars) a quick kill can be achieved by shooting a point midway between the eyes and ear, or between the eyes. Animals can be immobilized by shooting the shoulder. Chest shots can kill, but there may be a critical time-delay before immobilization.

Killing weapons should be used as follows.

ANIMAL TYPE	Weapon	Bullet	Target (by priority
Large carnivores, Large hoof-stock Cougar, bear Bison	223-magnum rifle	225-gr Hollow point	1 Head 2 Shoulder 3 Chest
Small carnivores and mammals, hoof stock (wolves, deer, lynx	223-magnum rifle	150-gr Hollow point	1 Head 2 Chest
For rapid shot in underbrush small hoof stock, or point blank range for large carnivores	20 or 12-gauge Shotgun	150-gr Hollow point	

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PERSONNEL AND TRAINING:

The City of Manitowoc Department of Public Infrastructure or designee is responsible for updating this list. As well as the training of the department employees and coordinating training with other departments.

On Scene Commander: The person that is on the scene at the onset of implementing the escape plan will be defined as the On Scene Commander. If this person deems it appropriate he/she may designate another person as the On Scene Commander. The identity of the On Scene Commander will be broadcast on the Police Department Radios including those used by other city department employees.

1. On Scene Commander Requirements include:
 - a. Maintain familiarity with the Dangerous Animal Escape Procedures
 - b. Have the ability to communicate with responding agencies
 - c. Maintain familiarity with Police-radio operation
 - d. Participate in animal escape drills
 - e. Be able to maintain a high level of concentration while dealing with an emergency situation.

2. Capture- gun operators:
 - a. Dr. Christopher Katz, DVM, MRCUS 793-1187
 - b. Dr. Tracey L Gilbert, DVM 845-9848

Requirements include:

 - a. Maintain familiarity with the operation of capture gun to be used
 - b. Maintain proficiency in accurately using the capture gun
 - c. Maintain familiarity with Dangerous Animal Escape Procedures

3. Capture-dart loaders
 - a. Maintain proficiency in loading the capture gun or any other weapon needed for capture.
 - b. Maintain familiarity with the Dangerous Animal Escape Procedures
 - c. Participate in scheduled firing-range practices