



**Southeast/Southwest District Senior 4-H Conference  
Jekyll Island 4-H Center  
Global Youth Service Day Project: Pet Emergency Supply Kits**

As a part of the Southeast/Southwest District Senior 4-H Conference held at the Jekyll Island 4-H Center (April 25-27, 2008) and in celebration of "Global Youth Service Day", students will be developing "Pet Emergency Supply Kits".

We are asking both student and adult participants to donate the following items.

- 1) **can opener (manual/hand-held)**
- 2) **clean, gently used towel or small blanket (baby blanket)**

**Why "Pet Emergency Supply Kits"?**

- The American Veterinary Medical Association reports that almost fifty-nine percent (58.9) of all U.S. households own animals. It is for this reason, that the care of animals in disasters is important to the care of humans.
- "If you evacuate your home, **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND!** Pets most likely cannot survive on their own; and if by some remote chance they do, you may not be able to find them when you return." -FEMA
- "The best disaster preparedness starts with personal protection and safety. An attitude of personal responsibility allows individuals and interest groups to identify, prioritize and mitigate issues that arise in disasters. When individuals and interest groups collaborate with emergency management officials in their communities, programs based on the community's needs, expertise and resources can be developed. That preparedness benefits both people and the animals for which they care when disaster does strike." -FEMA Emergency Management Institute

**Service Project Goal:** 4-H Youth will combine resources and time to develop "Pet Emergency Supply Kits". Two kits will return to the home counties of the participating students. Of these, one will be a demonstration kit at the County Extension Office and the other will be donated to a local animal adoption shelter (Humane Society). These kits will be used to educate pet owners on the importance of preparing for emergencies. The remainder of the kits will be donated to the South Coastal Humane Society and the Glynn Co. Animal Control (adoption facility).

**GYSD Vision:**

On Global Youth Service Day, millions of young people in countries everywhere will highlight and carry out thousands of community improvement projects. This day will be a way for local, national, and international organizations to:

- **BUILD** the capacity of an international network of organizations that promotes youth participation, service, and learning;
- **EDUCATE** the public, the media, and policy-makers about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders around the world;
- **MOBILIZE** youth and adults to meet the needs of their communities through volunteering; and
- **LEARN** and share effective practices in youth service, youth voice, and civic engagement in the world today.