

California Shelters Well Equipped, AKC Says

AKC spokesperson says emergency animal shelters appear fully stocked with dog supplies.

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Despite making dozens of phone calls to offer whatever supplies necessary to help with pet rescue efforts in Southern California, the American Kennel Club has not found any takers.

“Everyone says thanks but no thanks,” Daisy Okas, a media spokesperson for the AKC, said. “It doesn’t seem to be like Katrina ... the disaster mechanisms are already in place, which is a good thing.”

Despite a lack of current need, Dennis Sprung, AKC’s president and CEO, said the organization will continue to offer help.

“We are relieved to find that the majority of our constituents’ needs are being met; however, we want to stress our willingness to assist wherever needed,” he said.

The AKC is sending dog crates, food, and other supplies to be stored at a California affiliate’s grooming shop in case the situation changes. The group, California Federation of Dog Clubs, is taking assistance requests from dog clubs, shelters and individuals. You can reach the project manager, Marcy Zingler, at mlz@akc.org or (212) 696-8346.

AKC is also working closely with Take the Lead – an organization that provides emergency support and services to those involved with the purebred dog sport.

For more updates on how the California wildfires are affecting dogs and their owners, [click here](#).