



The Fire Service College

Moreton-in-Marsh, England



Risk Assessment on USAR Dog Kennels at the Fire Service College Morton-in-Marsh.

No	HAZARD	LOCATION	WHO IS AT RISK	HAZARD REDUCTION METHODS	ACCEPTABLE RESIDUE RISK
1	Slips, trips and collisions	Inside kennel & run	FSC staff Dog handlers Visitors to kennels The dogs	Appropriate footwear, clean floor of excrement & urine immediately, working area monitored non-essential equipment removed. Adequate lighting inside Kennel and run. Signs on gate to kennels compound. Rock salt to be available in freezing weather conditions. Minimal water to be used to clean kennels in freezing weather conditions. Authorised personnel only to enter kennels.	Yes



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2	Infection, contamination, diseases and hygiene.	Inside kennel & run. Fields and open area USAR Rubble piles and buildings	FSC staff. Dog handlers. Visitors to kennels. The dogs. Delegates to FSC Courses.	Floor area cleaned and dried, excrement to be bagged and disposed of correctly & urine cleaned. Cleaned with antibacterial solution. Site-specific cleaning materials used for kennels & run. Surfaces easy to clean. Cuts and abrasions covered Cuts or abrasions cleaned after handling dogs or equipment. All dogs to be vaccinated against kennel cough and other general proprietary vaccinations. Copy of these held on record at FSC. Hose pipe and brushes to be made available for cleaning kennels & compound. Food preparation area provided and sink available for cleaning bowls etc. Disposal bags to be available for handlers and access to disposal system for all waste generated at kennels. All dog hair after grooming to be disposed of correctly. All drains to be cleaned and waste disposed of correctly by handler on departure of their visit. Correct storage of dog feed to prevent rodent infestation of the kennel area.	Yes
3	Manual handling	Inside kennel & run	FSC staff. Dog handlers	Correct lifting, handling and moving techniques used. Transference to & from vehicles etc by dogs.	Yes
4	Bites & scratches	Inside kennel & run. Fields and open area USAR Rubble piles and buildings	FSC staff. Dog handlers. Visitors to kennels. The dogs. Delegates to FSC Courses	Dogs to remain under the control of handlers at all times or under control of person approved by handler. Leash and collar worn where appropriate. Signage on outside of kennel warning of dog's presence and the possibility of bites and scratches. Dogs kept separate where necessary. Authorised personnel only to enter kennels.	Yes



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5	Noise from barking	Inside kennel & run. Fields and open area USAR Rubble piles and buildings	FSC staff. Dog handlers. Visitors to kennels. The dogs. Delegates to FSC Courses	Kennels away from main buildings. Signage on outside of kennel to dissuade inappropriate behaviour. Regular visits by handler. Security staff notified when kennels are occupied and location / contact numbers of handler. Kennels to be kept locked when unattended by handlers.	Yes
6	Fumes	Inside kennel & run	Dogs and handlers	Ventilation panels in kennel, run open fronted with mesh/bars. Vehicles not to enter kennel compound.	Yes
7	Heat & temperature management	Kennel & run	Dogs	Kennel to have ventilation, provide shelter from sun, frost. Heater and lamp inside kennel. Dry fresh bedding inside kennel. Water readily available to dogs at all times. Cold weather dog coats to be worn on the discretion of the handler.	Yes
8	Security	Kennel & Run Open area & Fields	Dogs	Kennels to have security fencing surrounding kennels. Fence secure against escape by dogs or access by wildlife from site e.g. Foxes. Gates and individual kennels to be Lockable. Lighting provided within compound. Hitching post for leash's when cleaning kennel or dog. Site Security notified when kennels are in use and location of handlers & Mobile number.	Yes



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9	Injuries or illness of canine	Inside kennel & run. Fields and open area USAR Rubble piles and buildings	Dogs	Canine First Aid packs to be carried by all handlers during visit. Location and contact numbers to be displayed at kennels of local veterinary surgery. Dog PPE to be used as and when necessary.	Yes
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Additional notes

- Items from this risk assessment shall be promulgated to relevant FSC personnel and all visiting handlers.
- Signage to be visible to all concerned,
- Notification to visitors where appropriate.
- Checks made for wear & tear to kennel & run, by FSC staff and on arrival and departure of visiting handlers, records kept by FSC.
- Responsibility for cleaning is with the visiting USAR Dog handlers.
- Visiting Fire Service dogs may use the kennels where appropriate vaccinations records are evident, and in agreement with USAR department co-ordinator.
- Use of the kennels is available only to fire service USAR dogs and not private pet dogs of visiting delegates. Use by FI Dogs and NGO groups will be considered at a later date, once the operating procedures have been agreed and seen to be functioning correctly. This will be in discussion with FSC and FS USAR Dog section.

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