Items **bolded** below are requirements that must be demonstrated to the Evaluator. Non-bolded items are training steps that may be introduced in class and are helpful for achieving the requirements. All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward-based methods.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Handler understands and can easily describe the basics of disaster planning and preparation, why it is important and what often happens in various emergency situations** |
|  | **Handler understands the types of emergencies possible in his/her area and has a plan and supplies ready in case of such an emergency** |
|  | **Handler can describe physical characteristics that clearly distinguish the dog from others that look similar when the dog is not physically present** |
|  |
|  | **Handler has the dog’s vaccination records and photos of the dog as well as a signed letter specifying a person who has permission to care for the dog in the event of an emergency; Records, photos and the letter must be sent to someone residing at least 100 miles away who is willing and able to search for the dog if he became lost or if the handler were unable to look for and care for him** |
|  | **Handler has an out-of-town contact who will coordinate communications with other friends and/or family members can call if the handler becomes separated from his/her dog** |
|  | Handler has a plan with a neighbor or friend who will evacuate the dog if the handler is at work or otherwise away from home when an evacuation order is issued (highly recommended) |
|  | **Dog has some form of permanent ID like a tattoo, microchip or other form of permanent identification available in the future. Additionally, the dog has collar tags with at least 1 phone number from out of area (national registries okay) or a tag like a Home Again that allows information to be updated quickly and easily** |
|  | **To simulate a home or vehicle rescue, the dog will allow a stranger to leash and remove him from a place he considers to be his own, like a crate or car, without the handler present** |
|  | **To simulate a rescue where the dog is loose, the dog will go to a stranger when called (without using his name), or allow himself to be easily caught, when the handler is not in sight** |
|  | **Dog can be easily handled all over by a stranger without the handler present, including checking ears, paws, gums and allows the stranger to search his groin for a tattoo** |
|  | **Dog will accept being muzzled by a stranger using a standard muzzle without the handler present** |
|  | **Dog will accept being lifted and carried by a stranger (big dogs may require a 2-person carry) without the handler present** |
|  | **Dog will willingly go into a crate that is on the ground or allow himself to be lifted into a crate that is elevated on top of other crates or on a table** |
|  | **Dog will remain calm in a crate for at least 10 minutes when the owner is not present without excessive digging, chewing or barking, or trying to escape** |
|  | **Dog can swim at least 15’without panic or excessive splashing while not wearing a life vest** |
|  | **Dog will respond to an emergency ‘wait’ or ‘stop’ cue that will completely stop his forward motion immediately as he is moving away from the handler** |

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