

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR DOMESTIC PETS



There are a number of things pet owners can do in preparation for a disaster. Whether you decide to stay put in an emergency or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance.

1 PREPARE

FOOD & WATER. Have at least 5 days of food and water in an airtight container.

MEDICINE AND MEDICAL RECORDS. Have an extra supply of medicine and directions on administering. Have copies of your pets most recent medical records as they may be required for your pets to be accepted into a shelter.

IDENTIFICATION. Keep identification on your pet at ALL times. Have a picture of you and your pet together in case you are separated to help document ownership.

CRATE OR PET CARRIER. Have a safe, and comfortable way to transport and keep your animals safe. Include a blanket and a favorite toy to help relieve stress for your pet. Bring a harness and leash for taking animals out of their carrier.



SANITATION. Bring litter and a disposable litter pan if appropriate. Include any other items such as trash bags, brushes, and disinfectants.

2 IF YOU EVACUATE

LODGING. Secure appropriate lodging a head of time. Make sure you have multiple options, include friends and family out of town and out of state as well as a list of pet friendly hotels.

BUDDY SYSTEM. Make a back up plan with neighbors, friends, or relatives in case an emergency happens while you are not home. Make sure they know where you keep your emergency pet kit and have easy access to enter your home.

3 IF YOU STAY HOME

SAFE ROOM. If you are waiting out a disaster at home you will need to keep your animals in a safe area. Keep your emergency supplies in this designated room. Close off any unsafe nooks or crannies such as a fireplace or vent where a frightened animal may try to hide and potentially become trapped.



4 STAY CONNECTED

STAY INFORMED. Be ready to adapt to new information that may affect your circumstances. Listen to the news and take every effort to follow instructions provided by the authorities and disaster relief workers.

BE READY. Know ahead of time what type of emergencies or natural disasters your area is prone to and plan accordingly. Get to know the emergency plans that have been established by your state and local government.

5 AFTER A DISASTER

BE AWARE. Your home and neighborhood may be a very different place after a disaster. Landmarks and scents your pets are accustomed may be gone, potentially causing your animal to become disoriented. It is important to keep a good eye on your pets after a disaster has occurred.

DO NOT LET THEM ROAM LOOSE. A disaster can alter the environment your pet was accustomed to causing your pet to easily get lost. Be sure to search your home and yard for any wild animals that may have sought refuge in or around your home.



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For more information visit us on the web at www.HSVC.org or call 805-646-6505.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR HORSES & LIVESTOCK



Horses and livestock require special considerations when planning for the event of a disaster. Fortunately, there are a number of things large animal owners can do to prepare in the case of an emergency or evacuation.

Do not leave your animals behind. A situation that isn't safe for you won't be safe for your animal companions. Evacuate immediately and remember once you have evacuated you may not be able to return.

1 PREPARE



IDENTIFICATION. Keep halters ready for your animals with an identification tag fastened to it. On each halter include the following information: the horse's name, your name, email address, your telephone number and another emergency telephone number where someone can be reached. At the time of evacuation, consider additional temporary identification such as a leg band or use a livestock pen to write on their hooves. In your records, include the horse's age, sex, breed and color. Keep this information with your important papers.

MEDICAL RECORDS: Place your animals' veterinary papers and vital information—such as medical history, allergies and emergency telephone numbers (veterinarian, family members, etc.)—in a watertight envelope. Store the envelope with your other important papers in a safe place. Keep copies of all documentation on your phone for easy access.

SUPPLIES. Prepare a basic first aid kit that is portable and easily accessible. Be sure to include enough water (12 to 20 gallons per day per horse), hay, feed and medications for several days for each horse.

2 IF YOU EVACUATE

TRANSPORTATION. Make arrangements in advance to have your horse trailered in case of an emergency. If you don't have your own trailer or don't have enough room in your trailer for horses, be sure you have several people on standby to help evacuate your horses.



It is important that your horses are comfortable being loaded onto a trailer. If your horses are unaccustomed to being loaded practice the procedure so they become used to it. Know where you can take your horses in an emergency evacuation.

BUDDY SYSTEM. Make a back-up plan with neighbors, friends, or relatives in case an emergency happens while you are not home. When possible, make arrangements with a friend or another horse owner to stable your horses well beyond the region at risk. Contact your local animal care and control agency, agricultural extension agent or local emergency management authorities for information about shelters in your area.

4 IF YOU CANNOT EVACUATE



HAVE A BACK-UP PLAN. Have a back-up plan in case it's impossible to take your large animals with you when you evacuate. Consider different types of disasters and whether your animals would be better off in a barn or loose in a field. Your local emergency management agency may be able to provide you with information about your community's disaster response plans.

Post detailed instructions in several places—including the barn office or tack room, the horse trailer, and barn entrances—to ensure emergency workers can see them in case you are not able to evacuate your horses yourself.

5 STAY CONNECTED

BE READY. Know ahead of time what type of emergencies or natural disasters your area is prone to and plan accordingly. Get to know the emergency plans that have been established by your state and local government beforehand.

STAY INFORMED. Be ready to adapt to new information that may effect your circumstances. Listen to the radio and take every effort to follow instructions provided by the authorities and disaster relief workers.



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