

# Livestock and Equine Emergencies

## Making your emergency contact list

Prepare your emergency contact list now, before disaster strikes. You may need it during a disaster or while evacuating, and rescue personnel responding to a disaster affecting your animals may need it, too. Keep a copy with your evacuation kit.

Include addresses and 24-hour contact numbers, if available. If you use the [Medical ID function](#) on your mobile device, be sure one of the contacts is aware of your animal disaster plan.

Emergency Contacts	
Contact	Phone number
Owner/Primary Animal Caretaker	
Neighbor (_____)	
Prearranged Evacuation Site (Location)	
Animal Transportation Resource	
Out-of-State Emergency Contact (_____)	
Veterinarian	
Alternate Veterinarian	
Animal Control Agency	
Police Department	
Fire Department	
Health Department	
Red Cross Chapter	
“Lost and Found” Animal Sites	
Animal Shelter	
Other (_____)	



## ANIMAL EVACUTION KIT CHECK-LIST:

Packing an evacuation kit specific for your animal species, you may need more than one kit. Be prepared for a disaster with an animal evacuation kit. Talk with your veterinarian when developing your kit, and assemble the kit well in advance of any emergency.

**CFAES**

### Food and medicine

- ☐ 7-10 days' worth of food\*
- ☐ 7-10 days' supply of water\* (if possible)
- ☐ Two-week supply of supplements or medications\*

*\*These items must be rotated and replaced to ensure they don't expire*

### Animal Care Supplies

- ☐ Bedding material
- ☐ Feeders and waterers
- ☐ Transport coops/crates (with heating/cooling apparatus as needed)

### General supplies

- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Cloth towels
- ☐ Duct tape
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Knife
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ Shovel
- ☐ Tarps
- ☐ Thick gloves
- ☐ Trash bags
- ☐ Trash cans (with lids)
- ☐ Wire cutters

### First aid kit

- ☐ Antibiotic ointment
- ☐ Bandage tape and scissors
- ☐ Cotton bandage rolls
- ☐ Isopropyl alcohol/alcohol prep pads
- ☐ Latex gloves
- ☐ Saline solution
- ☐ Towel and washcloth
- ☐ Tweezers

### Important documents

- ☐ Identification papers including proof of ownership and microchip number, if applicable
- ☐ Medical records and medication instructions
- ☐ Emergency contact cards, including veterinarian and pharmacy
- ☐ Maps of the local area and evacuation routes

### Considerations when making your disaster plan:

Be prepared for the possible disruption of services for extended periods, including gas, electricity, phone (cellular and landlines), internet service, and local sources of food, water, and fuel.

- Identify alternate sources of food and water.
  - Have well-maintained backup generators and a fuel source for use in farm animal production operations.
  - Keep vehicles well-maintained and full of gas.
  - Keep emergency cash on hand (ATMs may not work).
- Assemble an animal evacuation kit. (And/or emergency vet box)
- Keep animal equipment where rescue personnel, neighbors, and friends can easily find it.
- Consult with your veterinarian about appropriate identification for your animals.
- Make copies of any proof of ownership, animal identification documentation, or photos for identification, and keep them with your evacuation kit.
- Prepare emergency contact lists in advance.

Resources: The Center for Food Security & Public Health, Iowa State University  
Ohio State University Agritourism



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
EXTENSION

There are unique considerations for horses and livestock during a disaster. Preparing ahead of time and acting quickly are the best ways to keep you and your animals out of danger. Protect your whole family and farm when emergencies arise with the proper supplies, veterinary information, animal identification, and an evacuation plan that has been practiced. How best to protect your livestock and farm animals in extreme weather will depend on the size of your herds, what type of animals you have, and how extreme the weather actually gets. Providing the basics – food, water, and shelter will go a long way to keeping them safe.

**Being prepared means:**

- Making a disaster plan for your family and animals
- Preparing everything you need to complete that plan, such as putting together an evacuation kit and emergency contact list
- Staying informed about local animal disaster plans

**Follow these tips to help your pets recover after a disaster situation:**

- Survey your house and farm to identify dangerous conditions.
- Contact your veterinarians immediately to see if animals are injured or ill.
- Reintroduce food as small meals, gradually working up to full portions if animals have been without food for a prolonged time.
- Allow uninterrupted rest and sleep.

**What to do if your animals are lost:**

- Notify local law enforcement, animal care and control officials, veterinarians, and neighbors of any lost animals.
- Contact animal control and animal shelters daily.
- Use online resources for lost and found animals.
- Use social media to post information about lost and found animals.

Additionally, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service maintains the National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps (NAHERC), a group of veterinary support personnel who respond to disease outbreaks and other disasters that affect livestock, poultry, companion animals, and wildlife. You can learn more about NAHERC at

[www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergencymanagement/ct\\_naherc-management/ct\\_naherc](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergencymanagement/ct_naherc-management/ct_naherc)

Sources- <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/pet-owners/emergency-care/large-animals-and-livestock-disasters>

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usd-a-livestock-preparedness-fact-sheet.pdf>

