

# Disaster Preparedness Checklist: Horses

Recommendations from the BC SPCA

## Are you prepared if an emergency strikes?

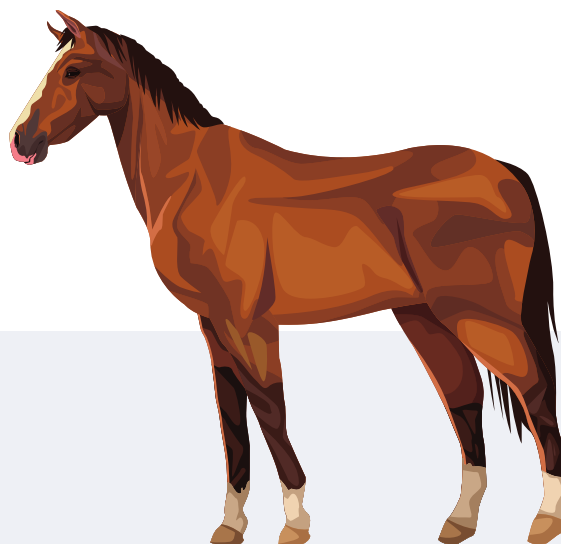
### BEFORE AN EMERGENCY

- Know the types of disasters that could occur in your area and develop a written plan for each
  - Review plans regularly with everyone involved
- Map the location of all fields and barns on your property, along with the number of horses in each
  - Identify the best locations for your horse(s) during each type of disaster
- Determine where to take your horse(s) if evacuation is necessary
  - Plan the driving route to the evacuation site and visit in advance to ensure it's suitable
  - Develop an order of evacuation list
- Keep vehicles and horse trailers in good working condition and insured
  - Keep gas tanks full and have spare gas on hand
  - Make arrangements if you are unable to haul your horse(s)
- Make sure your horse(s) will load quickly and easily
  - Practice regularly during the day and night, and in different weather conditions
- Ensure emergency plans are accessible in each barn
  - Post emergency phone numbers in a visible location
- Identify each horse
  - Use a permanent identification (e.g. microchip)
  - Prepare a waterproof external ID (see important records) ready to attach in an emergency (e.g. clip/braid-in tag, fetlock band)
- Know the location and operation of all emergency shut off valves in the barn

### IMPORTANT RECORDS

Have **three** copies of each of the following (one kept in a waterproof bag in the barn, one that you keep with you, and one located offsite):

- Photos of each horse
  - Left and right sides, face, and legs
  - Yourself with each horse
- Waterproof external ID with guardian and horse's information
  - Guardian information: name, address, phone number
  - Horse information: name, description, ID (e.g. microchip), medication and feeding instructions
- Proof of ownership paperwork
  - Certificate of adoption, registration papers, bill of sale, record of microchip
- Veterinary records
- Insurance papers
- Emergency contacts
- Map from home property to evacuation site



## ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

Ensure all the items on this list are always available at the barn (whether sheltering in place or at evacuation barn)

- Important records (see previous page)
- Equine emergency first aid kit
- Feed and water (see below)
- Feed and water buckets
- Halter and lead rope for each horse that is easily accessible
- Helmet and gloves for handling horses (horses can panic during emergencies)

## FEEDING YOUR HORSE(S) IN AN EMERGENCY

### Sheltering in place

- Two-week supply of feed, hay, supplements, and medications in airtight, waterproof containers (rotated often)
- Three to seven-day supply of water in closed portable containers (rotated often)

### Evacuation

- Minimum three-day supply of feed, hay, supplements, and medications in airtight, waterproof containers (rotated often)
- Minimum three-day supply of water stored in closed, portable containers (rotated often)

## OTHER EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

Consider the following items for further preparedness (you may already have these items on your property). Determine if the evacuation site will provide these additional items or if you need to bring your own.

- Water purification kit
- Wheelbarrow, muck fork, shovel, broom
- Bedding
- Horse blankets (as appropriate)
- Fly spray/fly masks (as appropriate)
- Hay nets
- Basic grooming supplies
- Backup generator and extra fuel
- Toolbox with wire cutters
- Tarps, rope, duct tape
- Fencing repair materials
- Sand bags

