

Large Animal Safety Tips

- ✦ Take multiple photographs of your horse from various angles, as well as photos of you with your horse. Prepare written descriptions of each horse and put these in a safe place such as a bank safe deposit box, away from where the horses are kept. This will help you to provide identification information to animal control personnel should your horses become lost or separated from you in an emergency.
- ✦ Place an identification tag on the horse itself with the horse's name, your name, address, phone number, and email. Cattle ear tags can be secured around the horse's neck and the information written with an indelible ink pen, cattle/animal marketing crayon, or write the information on a piece of duct tape and place it on the halter.



- ✦ Make sure that all your horse transporting equipment is well maintained and ready to be used on a moment's notice and be sure your horses know how to load into a trailer/van.



- ✦ Keep the area around your barns and corrals well cleared of brush and other combustible materials (at least 30 feet) and rake perimeter areas. Store gasoline, paints, solvents, hay, straw, shavings, scrap wood, and other flammable materials in an approved safety container away from occupied buildings.
- ✦ Clean roof surfaces and gutters regularly.
- ✦ Keep a hose (at least 100') with nozzle connected at a strategic location at all times.
- ✦ Post "No Smoking" signs in and around the barn, and in vegetated areas as appropriate.
- ✦ Make sure chainsaws and other equipment have approved spark arrestors.
- ✦ Plan for an alternate exit on foot with your horses if roads are blocked by fire or debris.
- ✦ If you must evacuate your horses from a burning barn, close the stall and/or barn doors after you exit. Panicking horses have been known to run back into their stalls if they get loose during a fire.
- ✦ Take the time to make a plan for what to do in the event of an emergency. Discuss the plan with everyone on the farm or at the stables, so that everyone knows what to do. There will not be time to figure it out once the emergency starts. Post it in a clearly visible place. Have an annual meeting, at minimum, to discuss fire contingency plans.