



PALO ALTO
HUMANE
SOCIETY

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Helping animals through intervention, education, advocacy

AFTER THE DISASTER: IS YOUR HORSE READY?

To prepare your horse for a natural disaster, store the following supplies and first aid items in a protected area.

Keep the smaller items in a portable container such as a plastic bin or a trash can with a lid. Permanently identify your horse with a tattoo, freeze brand, microchip, or tag.

Supplies

- 1-week supply of your horse's food (grain and hay)
- 1-week supply of drinking water (5 gallons per horse per day)
- Extra food and water buckets
- 1-week supply of any medicines your horse requires
- Cotton or leather halter and lead (nylon will melt in a fire!)
- Photocopies of veterinary records
- Current photo of your horse
- Cotton sheet or blanket
- Horse blindfold
- Baling twine or wire
- Wire cutters
- Gloves

First Aid Kit

- Cotton leg wraps
- Non-stick pads
- Gauze cling wrap
- Bandaging tape (Elastikon or Vetrap)
- Banamine injection (500mg; for severe colic or tying up)
- Furacin antibiotic ointment or spray
- Antiseptic scrub (such as Betadine)
- Thermometer
- Blunt scissors
- Sterile saline irrigation
- Horse first aid book

Transporting your horse in an emergency

- Keep your trailer and vehicles in good running condition and ready for emergency evacuation in the case of a natural disaster. If you don't have a trailer, make arrangements in advance to move your horse(s) to a safe area.
- Identify at least two separate evacuation routes from your property.
- Designate a safe shelter area for your horse on or near your property for localized emergencies, and another shelter area out of town for widespread emergencies.
- Make sure your horse will load into any trailer at any time, calmly and quietly.
- Familiarize your neighbors with your barn and your horses, and do the same for them. Have someone watch your property when you are not home.
- Stallions, pregnant mares, and injured or ill animals may need special care. For example, unruly stallions or other horses may require sedation or a separate holding area, near-term pregnant mares should be supervised by people experienced with parturition, and injured or ill animals may need special equipment or medicines.

(Materials produced by the Palo Alto Humane Society in conjunction with the American Red Cross Northern California Disaster Preparedness Network.)

