

Checklist for Emergency Horse Evacuation

Create Your Plan – DO NOW!

- *Complete Emergency Evacuation Contacts Sheet* - Use this form to document where you would take your horses, along with contact information for key resources during an evacuation.
- *Complete Horse Transport Resource Sheet* – Use this form to create a list of people who can transport your horse (even if you have your own trailer). Create a group text list.
- *Complete Horse Identification Sheet* - Keep copies of this form stall-side (in waterproof packet). Additional copies: one copy for barn's "Go Box", one copy in owner's Go Box.
- *Write a Care, Custody and Control Letter to Barn* – Provide authorization for barn management to evacuate your horse if you can't be there to do so, and to arrange care for it at the evacuation site.
- Microchip your horse! If already chipped: is it registered and up to date?

Prepare Your Communications

- Register with ReadySanDiego.org – reverse 911 calls (targeted)
- Barn managers: create a group text list for boarders, and keep updated
 - <https://www.techadvisor.co.uk/how-to/mobile-phone/how-send-group-texts-from-android-iphone-3472964/>

Program the following into your phone:

- County Disaster Center Hotline: 211 – provides emergency information such as road closures, mandatory/voluntary evacuation zones, evacuation centers, etc.
- County Department of Animal Services emergency line: 619-236-2341
- SD Humane Emergency Rescue Team hotline: 619-213-3466 (manned 24/7 during fires)
- CalFire Fire Information Hotline: 619-590-3160
- San Diego County Sheriff's Department: 858-565-5200

- California Highway Patrol: 858-637-3800

Download the following emergency apps:

- San Diego County Emergency
- PulsePoint (not the medical one but the fire/disaster one)
- Emergency by American Red Cross (allows you to monitor people and places)
- Follow CalFire and/or your local fire protection district (NCFPD, VCFPD) on Twitter and enable alerts

Download optional apps:

- Zello (converts your cell phone into two-way radio)
- Flashlight
- Compass

Assemble Your "Go Box"

- Include all of the documents above in an easy to grab-and-go box, kept in a convenient location at home.
- Compile and copy ownership documentation – If your horse is evacuated to somewhere other than a friend's, you'll need definitive proof in order to claim him from authorities/site operators.
 - Bill of Sale, Coggins Test, Microchip number and registry contact information
- Gather medical records: vaccine history (keep tetanus up to date), vet information, health conditions, medications

Assemble Your Emergency Supplies and Horse Identification

- Purchase a horse ID product:
 - Horse ID Collars, Neck Straps, and Fetlock ID Bands by I.C.E Products USA (available at Mary's Tack & Feed or online), EquestriSafe (Equestrisafe.com or Infohorse.com), Quillen (quillen.com), or others (google horse neck strap)
 - Brass plate on leather halter or cribbing collar, with your contact info (available through Performance Horse Supply in Bonsall, Mary's Tack & Feed, other suppliers)
 - Cheap DIY: spare leather throatlatch with an engraved dog tag attached
 - Keep it stall-side
- Purchase a leather or cotton halter and lead, and keep beside stall
 - consider nameplate on halter; stud chain if needed
- Create Human and Equine Emergency Kits

Keep at home:

- Supply of pelleted/cubed feed (rotate as needed to maintain freshness); avoid transporting hay or shavings through fire zones
- Extra halter & lead
- Water bucket, muck bucket, pitchfork
- Equine first aid kit with 7-day supply of medicines (rotate to maintain freshness) See Thehorse.com/33573

Keep at horse's stall:

- Leather or cotton halter and lead
- Identifying device (neck collar, halter tag/plate)
- *Horse Identification and Emergency Contacts Sheet*, in weatherproof pocket. (Same form as in your at-home kit and barn's go-box)

Ready Your Trailer

- During Santa Ana conditions or other severe weather: consider hooking up your trailer and parking it where you can easily load and depart. Keep gas tank filled.
- Maintain truck and trailer in good operating condition, and have trailer inspected regularly (e.g. condition of bearings)
- Keep trailer stocked with emergency supplies (see checklist)

AFTER THE FIRE – HORSE SAFETY TIPS

Avoid returning horses to a burn zone while smoke is still present in air, and especially when smoldering is present

- poor air quality can affect horses' health
- toxic substances in smoke, soot on the ground

Examine the property first for downed power lines, windblown or fire-fallen debris, downed fences and other potential hazards.

Give your horse ample time to recover from smoke-induced airway insult. Airway damage resulting from wildfire smoke takes 4-6 weeks to heal. Ideally, plan on giving your horse that amount of time off from the time when the air quality returns to normal.

Limit exercise when smoke is visible. Don't have your horse do activities that increase the airflow in and out of the lungs. This can trigger bronchoconstriction (narrowing of the small airways in the lungs).

If your horse is coughing or having difficulty breathing, immediately call a vet. A veterinarian can help determine the difference between a reactive airway from smoke and dust versus a bacterial infection and bronchitis or pneumonia. If your horse has a history of having heaves or recurrent airway problems, there is a greater risk of secondary problems such as bacterial pneumonia.

Source: UC Davis Veterinary Hospital

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/guidelines-horses-exposed-wildfire-smoke>



Emergency Evacuation Contacts

Identify at least two evacuation sites, preferably in different directions, plus routes to get there. Keep copies of this on your phone, or cloud server as well as in your "Go Box!"

Where You'll Take Your Horses

■ **Evacuation Site option A**

CONTACT PERSON _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____

DRIVING DIRECTIONS _____

■ **Evacuation Site option B**

CONTACT PERSON _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____

DRIVING DIRECTIONS _____

■ **Evacuation Site option C**

CONTACT PERSON _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____

DRIVING DIRECTIONS _____

PHONE NUMBERS YOU MIGHT NEED

OUTSIDE AREA EMERGENCY CONTACT (who you'll call to update about your situation) _____

VETERINARIAN _____

SECONDARY VETERINARIAN _____

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DEPT OF ANIMAL SERVICES (unincorporated areas) **619-236-2341** _____

CAL FIRE _____

SAN DIEGO HUMANE SOCIETY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (City of SD and contracted areas) **619-299-7012** _____

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR TRUCK AND TRAILER

- Chock Blocks
- Block to put under your landing gear
- High powered Flashlight
 - Extra batteries
- Flares or Triangles
- Jumper Cables and/or portable power pack
- Small Tool Kit (screw drivers, crescent wrench, pliers, etc. 9/16 wrench for corral)
- WD-40
- Duct Tape
- Painter Tape
- Window Cleaner / Paper Towels
- Wet Wipes
- Jack for your Vehicle/Trailer
- Tools specific to your rig to remove lug nuts and hub caps
- Trailer Aid
- Can of Fix-A-Flat
- Tire Gauge
- Mini air compressor (available at Costco)
- Engine oil, brake fluid, coolant
- Spare Serpentine Belt for your vehicle
- Tow Rope
- Small container of sand or cat litter (to throw on the trailer floor in place of shavings to help with footing when loading/unloading animals.
- Shovel
- Spare Halters and Lead Ropes
- First-Aid kit (Human/Animal)
- Fire Extinguisher
- Emergency Numbers Printed out
- Rescue Knife
- Blanket / Pillow
- Caution or Flagging Tape (to mark your way up/down some of our roads to be sure you can find your way back)

Horse Transport Resources

Identify people with trailers who would be willing to help you evacuate your horse if necessary. Your list should include some people who are close, and some who come from different directions. Call them and verify that they are willing. Confirm with them periodically, especially during dangerous weather conditions.

Contact Name _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Location: _____

Description of resource (e.g. 2-horse slant load, stock trailer):

Contact Name _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Location: _____

Description of resource (e.g. 2-horse slant load, stock trailer):

Contact Name _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Location: _____

Description of resource (e.g. 2-horse slant load, stock trailer):

Contact Name _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Location: _____

Description of resource (e.g. 2-horse slant load, stock trailer):

Contact Name _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Location: _____

Description of resource (e.g. 2-horse slant load, stock trailer):

Horse Identification and Emergency Contacts

Copies: 1) Stall-side 2) In owner's go-box 3) With barn operator 4) stored digitally

Owner: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone 1: _____

Phone 2: _____

Email: _____

If owner is unavailable, contact:

Name: _____

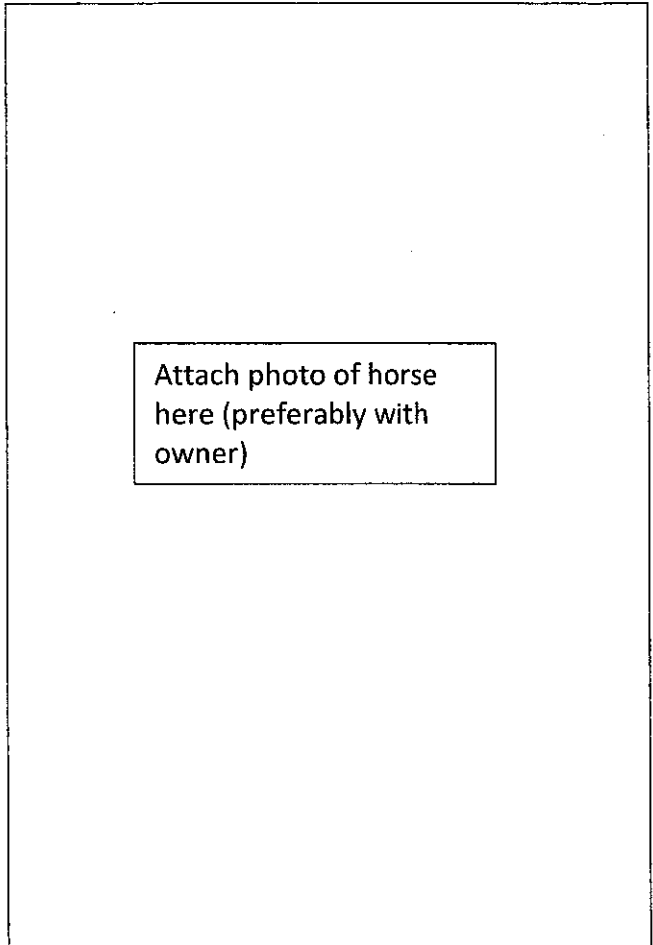
Phone: _____

Veterinarian:

Name : _____ Alternative: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 1: _____

Phone 2: _____ Phone 2: _____



Horse Name	Microchip# + registry	Color	Sex	Age
Breed	Breed Registry	Identifying Markings		

Special Medical Needs or Instructions:

Horse name: _____

Care, Custody and Control Letter

(This is a sample and has not been reviewed by an attorney)

Date: _____

Enter your boarding facility information

Name: _____

Manager's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Dear _____:

In the event of an evacuation emergency, and if I am unable to arrange otherwise, I _____ (name of legal horse owner or custodian) grant you, _____ (manager/owner of boarding facility) permission to arrange transport for my horse to an evacuation site. I further grant you temporary custody and control of my horse while at the evacuation site, to enable you or your appointed representative to act on my behalf in the best interest of my horse, until I am physically present at the site, or until I release you of such responsibility verbally or in writing.

This includes permission to have administered any emergency medical treatment deemed necessary by a licensed Veterinarian. Yes / No (circle one)

This includes permission to administer sedative if necessary to load my horse safely and timely during an emergency. Yes / No (circle one)

This permission is given for the time period of _____ to _____

Horse Name(s): _____

Owner: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

I also grant you permission to use my horse trailer, if parked on your property, for the exclusive purpose of transporting my horse during an emergency evacuation, if I am unable to do so. Yes / No / NA (circle one). If additional space is available in my trailer, I grant you permission to load additional horse(s) for the exclusive purpose of emergency evacuation. Yes / No / Not applicable (circle one)

Additional comments or provisions regarding any of the above permissions:
