



WORLD
ANIMAL
PROTECTION

Protect your pet in a disaster

Disaster Pack for Horses

Just as you do with your family's Disaster Survival Kit, think first about the basics for your horse – **food, water and warmth.**

Prepare two Disaster Survival Kits for your horse –

1. One kit for if you need to stay at home with your horse for up to three days.
2. The other, a more portable lightweight version (Evacuation Kit) for when you need to leave with your horse quickly.

Decide in advance whether you will take your horse with you, so that if disaster strikes you can avoid risky late retrieval from your home.

Place these kits somewhere easy to get to in a hurry, and make sure everyone in the house knows where they are kept.

Regularly re-check these kits for expiry dates to ensure supplies stay fresh – particularly the food, water and medicine items. Water should be replaced every six months to ensure freshness.



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Prepare for your Horse – Checklist

Emergency Survival Items:

- ☐ **Food:** Store at least three days' worth of horse food (silage, hay, pellets etc) somewhere dry.
- ☐ **Water:** Store at least three days' worth of water for your horse, in addition to the water you need for yourself.
- ☐ **Medicines:** Store any extra supply of medicines your horse needs in a waterproof container, as well as any special dietary needs or supplements.
- ☐ **Veterinary/Medical/Branding Records:** Store copies of medical, vaccination and registration/branding records in a watertight container including your vet's name and telephone number (in case you have to board your horse or place them in foster care).
- ☐ **First Aid Kit:** Make up a first aid kit for your horse or add to your household's (human) first aid kit. Make sure you talk to your vet about specific first aid requirements such as fly spray, antibiotic ointment and saline solution (ie eye wash solution separate from human use).
[▶ Click here for a full First Aid Kit for Pets](#)
- ☐ **Sanitation:** Include useful items such as a spade, newspapers, paper towels, plastic bags, gloves and household bleach (to dilute).

Identification:

- ☐ **ID Information:** Add any possible ID information to your horses' halter, lead and cover that clearly states their name, your name, phone number and, if there is room, your address. Include a back up in your horse's Disaster Survival Kit.
- ☐ **Photograph:** Store a current photograph of your horse in a waterproof container, including notes on: distinguishing features, name, sex, age, colour and breed. Also include a photograph of you and your horse together as this helps prove they are yours if you become separated.

- ☐ **Back up:** As a back up, save microchip details, medical and veterinary details, key contact details and all photographs electronically to places such as 'Dropbox', your mobile phone or save a folder in your Webmail (eg Gmail). This means you can still access these vital details if you are cut off from returning to your horse.

Equipment:

- ☐ **Halter and lead:** As well as any other equipment that would help you or others handle your horse.
- ☐ **Float:** This is to transport your horse safely and ensure they cannot escape. Your horse may have to stay in the float for hours at a time.



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Safe Shelter Places

It is vital to plan whether you will take your horse with you in a disaster, and how you will keep it safe and secure. This avoids the risky late retrieval of your horse from your property. Check with your local council ahead of time if there are arrangements in your area for housing horses safely in a disaster.

- **A Safe Paddock:** Plan and agree with a family member, friend or paddock owner (who doesn't live with you) if they will care for your horse for any length of time, in case of a disaster.
- **Place their full name, address and telephone number in your Disaster Survival Kit in a waterproof container.** All adults and children in your household should know these primary and alternative contacts (names/addresses/contact numbers) or always carry this information with them.
- **Show them and a neighbour where your Disaster Survival Kits are kept** in case you are not at home when disaster strikes and you are cut off from returning to your horse. This means your neighbour can feed and attend to your horse in the interim.

Practise your plan

To ensure you and your horse can move fast, you should practice getting your horse to your safe paddock.

Remember to practise your plan regularly so that your horse becomes used to entering and travelling calmly in their float.

Also try evacuating in the dark. This will ensure you can navigate quicker if a disaster strikes during the night or if there is a power cut.

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