

Equine and livestock preparedness.

How can I prepare for an emergency?

Be the first to know about fire bans, water bans or other emergencies in Strathcona County.

Sign up today to receive Strathcona County Alerts by:

- Phone
- Email
- Text

www.strathcona.ca/scalerts 780-410-8550

For more information on emergency preparedness

Community Safety Education Strathcona County Emergency Services

safety.educators@strathcona.ca 780-464-8468





Your horses and livestock may be part of your livelihood. Preparing for an emergency in advance is recommended.

Suggestions

- » Good barn and field maintenance, that include FireSmart activities, can help reduce potential damage in a wildfire. Assess the stability and safety of barns and other structures, remove dead trees and minimize debris in the fields. Choose the safest housing location if evacuation of animals is impossible.
- » Prepare an evacuation kit which includes a list of numbers, type and location of your animals. Note favourite hiding spots in order to reduce rescue time. Items to include:
 - copies of vet records and proof of ownership
 - maps of the local area and alternate evacuation routes, in case of road closures
 - emergency contact list
 - cotton halter, rope or lariat, nose leads, whips and prods
 - duct tape, all purpose knife, wire cutters, shovels and other appropriate tools
 - heavy leather gloves
 - flashlight and solar or battery-operated radio
 - seven to 10 day supply of food, water and medications
 - water buckets and plastic trash cans with lids that can be used to store water
 - a livestock first aid kit



- Designate a willing neighbour to tend to your animals or evacuate them in the event a disaster occurs when you are not home. Keep a pre-signed letter that releases your neighbour from responsibility if one of your animals is injured during evacuation. A pre-signed vet medical treatment authorization letter can be considered as well.
- » Keep muzzles, handling gloves, catch nets and animal restraints where rescue personnel can find them.
- » Develop an evacuation plan and make sure your animals are familiar with being loaded onto a trailer.
- » Check with neighbours to see if they would be willing to haul your animals in the event your trailer is being used elsewhere.

Also consider

- » Building and/or repairing buildings to meet or exceed code (consider ease of evacuation).
- » Replacing or covering glass windows with materials that won't shatter.
- » Making sure drainage ditches have grass coverings.
- » Securing or removing anything that could become blowing debris.
- » Making sure the wiring is safe and heat sources are clear for materials.
- » Storing chemicals in storm-proof buildings and containers.
- » Building levees around, or draining, ponds.