

Learn how to prepare you and your pets and livestock for

Thunderstorms, flooding, tornadoes, winter storms, drought and wildfires



Thunderstorms

To be prepared for thunderstorms:

- check the weather forecast and keep an eye on the sky
- designate a safe area
- evacuate from a manufactured (mobile) home with your animals to a safe location
- if animals are nervous, contact your vet for advice

Mitigation tactics:

- stay inside
- avoid standing under a natural lightning rod
- keep you and your animals away from open water
- move you and animals to low ground
- stay away from metal objects

Flooding

To be prepared for flooding:

- determine if you are in a floodplain
- stockpile and replenish emergency building materials (sandbags)
- make evacuation plans
- start moving animals early, if needed
- ensure animals are properly identified

Mitigation tactics:

- purchase flood insurance if necessary
- move animals to high ground if needed
- check with authorities on how to prevent overflow of manure pits/lagoons
- store fertilizer, herbicides, pesticides and fuels in shelters
- install check valves to prevent water backup

Drought

To be prepared for drought:

- learn to recognize heat stress symptoms (excessive panting, high body temperatures, collapse, increased heart and respiratory rate, salivation, depression/stupor) and never leave pets in a parked car

Mitigation tactics:

- practice personal water conservation
- conserve electricity
- create artificial shade for large animals, install humidifiers/swamp coolers

Tornadoes

To be prepared for tornadoes:

- stay tuned to local TV or radio for updates (subscribe to Alberta Emergency Alert)
- provide animals in your household with a safe area and keep them confined
- conduct tornado drills
- know where your shelter is and ensure it is stocked
- turn animals out to avoid chance of injury due to building collapse

Mitigation tactics:

- building hardened shelters and implement policies to protect animals and follow relevant building code practices - wind resistant design
- replace barn windows with materials that won't shatter
- store or secure loose materials (including strapping and label hazardous material tanks)

Winter storms

To be prepared for winter storms:

- keep informed of current weather conditions in your area
- store adequate amounts of fuels and extra feed
- be prepared for isolation at home (particularly in rural area)
- insulate buildings used to house animals
- train on use of emergency heating and lighting equipment
- keep simple tools and other equipment to fight small fires
- winterize vehicles
- construct a windbreak for animals

Mitigation tactics:

- construct barns to withstand large snow accumulations
- purchase insurance to cover possible flood (results)

Wildfires

To be prepared for wildfire:

- have fire tools handy at your home and in your barn (ladder, garden hoses, fire extinguishers, etc.)
- use cotton ropes or leather halters for horses and livestock (nylon can melt)
- keep Tetanus vaccinations current

Mitigation tactics:

- learn to recognize dangerous fire situations
- use fire resistant plans on your property; FireSmart your land
- avoid burning during dry weather

For more information

Phone: 780-410-8550 | emergencyservices@strathcona.ca | www.strathcona.ca/sces

Information courtesy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).