

# PLANNING/PREPARING FOR DISASTER - before it strikes



Disaster comes in many forms. The type may determine your available options so study and be prepared to execute any of the 3 plans.

## **Prepare yourself and family members ahead of time!**

- ✓ Know your county's evacuation plan. Contact the Office of Emergency Services (who may direct you to the Sheriff's Office or Animal Control) to find out the location of potential shelter sites.
- ✓ Arrange with neighbors ahead of time for mutual support.
- ✓ If you have other groups you are affiliated with, the local shelter/evacuation team may be willing to do a presentation for your group.
- ✓ Know all possible escape routes ahead of time.
- ✓ *Mark all equipment with your name, and the names of the pet (use the tags prepared below).*

## **General must haves (also known as 'Go Bag')**

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| ➤ Money                                      | ➤ Cell phone and charger |
| ➤ Medications                                | ➤ Camera                 |
| ➤ Change of clothes , good shoes/boots       | ➤ General first aid kit  |
| ➤ Gloves                                     | ➤ Permanent marker       |
| ➤ Toiletries                                 | ➤ Duct tape              |
| ➤ Sleeping bag                               | ➤ Zip ties               |
| ➤ Knife                                      | ➤ Broadcast radio        |
| ➤ Flashlight or head light (spare batteries) |                          |

## **Prepare your vehicle – be ready to LOAD and GO !!!**

- Full tank of fuel
- Keys easily accessible -- this is NO time to hunt for anything!
- 3 days food and water
- Bucket(s)
- Lead ropes and carriers MARKED
- Make sure you position your vehicle or truck/trailer pointed out!
- **LEAVE EARLY. Take your patience with you – you will need it.**

### **Remember ...**

- **All who are trying to help you are probably volunteers.**
- **You will get through this. There are people who are there to help.**
- **Once you leave, you will not be permitted to return until safety is determined by emergency service personnel.**

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## Prepare for Large Animals

- ✓ Practice loading in non-crisis times in various situations.
- ✓ Put together a **Go Bucket** for each animal, or at least each species



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ ID – owner/vet/animal type</li> <li>➤ Include breed registration, brand, tattoo, microchip number (assemble in a binder or laminated card)</li> <li>➤ Feed – large bag of pellets work well for most equines</li> <li>➤ Medications with dosage instructions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Water and bucket(s)</li> <li>➤ Halter AND lead rope (cotton, nylon melts)</li> <li>➤ Fly mask Cotton bandana, large</li> <li>➤ Grooming box for scissors, hoof pick, duct tape</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

Identification example (if possible, laminated)

Name		
Gender – intact or other		
Brand, Tattoo, Microchip Number		
		
<u>Owner</u>	<u>Animal Residence</u>	<u>Veterinary Information</u>
Name	Facility Name	Vet name
Address	Street	Address
(Home phone)	City, State, Zip Code	Phone
(Cell phone)		Vaccination information



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## Prepare for Small Animals (small mammals, birds)

- ✓ Put together a **Go Bucket** for each animal, or at least each species



- ID – owner/vet/animal type
- Include breed, microchip number (assemble in a binder or laminated card)
- Collar and leash for each
- Tags on collar/bands
- Carrier/crate for each, if possible
- Food, water, bowls
- Medications with dosage instructions
- Cotton bandana, large, for each
- Blanket or toy for 'security)

Identification example (if possible, laminated)

	Name	
Gender – intact or other		
Microchip Number, Tattoo, Band No.		
		
<u>Owner</u>	<u>Animal Residence</u>	<u>Veterinary Information</u>
Name	Facility Name	Vet name
Address	Street	Address
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## PLAN A -- Humans and animals leave together

- ✓ Take your animals to an established shelter site if possible. For example: emergency shelter or friends.



## PLAN B – Shelter in Place when you have too many animals to remove

- ✓ If possible, affix ID on each animal.
- ✓ If possible, move all animals to a large cleared area! **No brush, no grass!**
- ✓ Shear all tails and manes.
- ✓ If disaster is fire, if possible, affix COTTON bandanas over the nose.
- ✓ Water, ensure buckets/troughs are full. Sprinkle ground if time permits.
- ✓ Leave a sketch or map of where animals may be on the property. Include location of feed.
- ✓ Leave your contact information so authorities or authorized rescue personnel can help with the animal rescue/evacuation.
- ✓ Leave the front door unlocked.
- ✓ **Remember -- Once you leave, you will not be permitted to return until safety is determined by emergency service personnel.**



## Plan C – Shelter in Place not possible

- ✓ If possible, affix ID on each animal.
- ✓ Cut fence in the corner away from oncoming face of disaster.
- ✓ Leave a sketch or map of where animals may be on the property. Include location of feed.
- ✓ Leave your contact information so authorities or authorized rescue personnel can help with the animal rescue/evacuation.
- ✓ Leave the front door unlocked and hope for the best!
- ✓ **Remember -- Once you leave, you will not be permitted to return until safety is determined by emergency service personnel.**



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## **Preparedness Resources**

- ❖ California Office of Emergency Services  
<http://www.caloes.ca.gov/for-individuals-families/california-animal-response-emergency-system>
- ❖ Ready, Set, Go  
<http://www.wildlandfirersg.org/>
- ❖ FEMA  
<http://m.fema.gov/>
- ❖ Red Cross  
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/pet-safety>

## **Websites for Fire Information**

- ❖ Calfire  
[http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/incidents/incidents\\_current](http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/incidents/incidents_current)
- ❖ USFS fires  
<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/5/>
- ❖ Streaming blog  
[www.wildlandfire.com](http://www.wildlandfire.com)
- ❖ hot list  
<http://hotlist.wildlandfire.com/forums/49-CA-amp-HI-Continuing-Fires-Incidents>
- ❖ Maps  
<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/PublicInformation/index.html>
- ❖ YubaNet Fire Information  
<http://yubanet.com/fire.php>

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