Equine Emergency Sheltering Plan

SART

NC STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

North Carolina NCHC Horse Council

NC STATE UNIVERSITY A&T STATE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Helping People Put Knowledge to Work

CRIME CONTROL & PUBLIC SAFETY
NORTH CAROLINA
Emergency Management

N.C. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
- FOUNDED 1877 -

EDRA

Equine Disaster Response Alliance

- Partners that have joined efforts to plan and prepare for Equine Emergencies
  - NC Extension, NCDA & CS, NC Horse Council, NC College of Veterinary Medicine, Jim Hamilton (Vet)
  - Mission: to prepare nc horse owners and govt response structures to care for horses during large scale disasters such as hurricanes etc.
  - Produced Equine Emergency Sheltering Plan

Equine Emergency Sheltering Plan

- Horses in Natural Disasters

  ** ISSUES **

  - Shelter- in -place
  - Evacuation
  - Search & Rescue
  - Rescue Shelters
  - Feed and Water

Cornerstone of plan = Owners

- Owners have to plan for their animals
  - Outreach by Extension, REINs, Horse Council
- 24 step owner preparedness plan
  - Evacuation plans
  - Choose commercial stables

www.ncagr.com/markets/livestock/horse

  - Take feed and water
  - Plan for long term in case disaster is extensive

Know locations of Emergency Shelters

Shelter in Place

- Most horse owners will shelter in place
  - (i.e. leave horse in place during event)
- Still there are precautions to take:
  - Don't lock horse in stable
- See 24 Step Disaster Plan

24 Step Disaster Plan

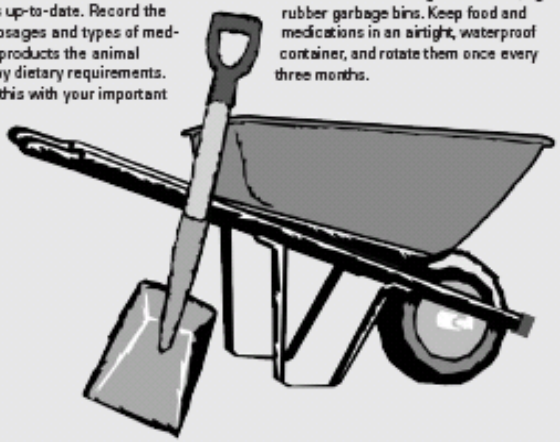
Long Range Disaster Planning

1 Familiarize yourself with the types of disasters that could occur in your area. Develop a written plan of action for each and keep the plan with your important papers. Review your Disaster Plan regularly with everyone involved. Post emergency numbers in a visible location in the stable or barn.

2 Survey your property for the best location for animal confinement for each type of disaster. Identify food and water sources that do not rely on electricity, which could be lost during an emergency. Decide where to take the horses if evacuation becomes necessary.

3 Photograph the left and right sides of each horse as well as its face and medial and lateral lower legs. Have someone take a photo of your horse with you in the picture, to help identify the horse as yours when picking it up from the evacuation area. Record its breed, sex, age and colour and keep copies with important papers. As an option you can permanently identify your horses by tattoo, brand or microchip. Temporary identification by tags on the fetlocks and halters, painted or etched hooves, or even clipping an ID number onto the horse are also options.

5 Keep your horse's vaccinations and boosters up-to-date. Record the dates, dosages and types of medications/health products the animal receives and any dietary requirements. Keep copies of this with your important papers and with your Disaster Plan.



6 Keep your horse trailer or van insured, in good condition, and checked for safety. Keep your towing vehicle insured and in good running order, with gas tank full and spare gas on hand.

7 Make sure your horse will load! The trailer is useless if you can't get the horse to go in.

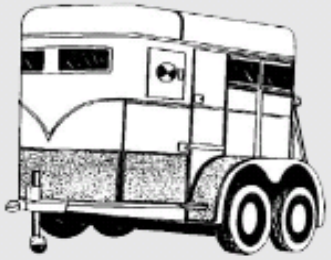
8 Maintain a stock of hay and grain, and keep extra medications and veterinary supplies on hand. Consider keeping a tranquilizer on hand should a horse become panicked during a crisis — ask your veterinarian what is available and what you are allowed to administer.

Advance Disaster Planning

9 Have a halter and lead rope designated for EACH horse and hang it outside its stall or on the paddock gates.

10 Keep extra feed buckets at your barn, to be sent with the horse when evacuated.

11 Stockpile at least three or more days of feed and hay. Stockpile medications and supplements. Store extra water in large containers, eg: rubber garbage bins. Keep food and medications in an airtight, waterproof container, and rotate them once every three months.



12 Keep extra bedding, pitchforks and shovels on hand. If space allows, keep an extra wheelbarrow.

13 Make ID tags handy for your horses (luggage tags work well) with your name, address, horse's name and description, your vet's name and phone number, feeding instructions and special needs. These can be attached to the halters or manes and tails. Keep these with your Disaster Preparedness Kit.

14 Clearly identify for your volunteers which horses should be evacuated first, in the event that all animals cannot be moved. Make sure all personnel are aware of your wishes.

15 Compile a portable First Aid Kit and keep it with your Disaster Preparedness Kit.

16 Obtain a map of your area and the area you will evacuate your horse to. Familiarize yourself with the area around your evacuation barn. Learn the routes. Keep this map with your Disaster Preparedness Kit. Check out the barn you hope to evacuate to in order to make sure that it is suitable.

continued on page 54

24 Step Disaster Plan *continued from page 53*

17 Put all the emergency phone numbers in your Disaster Preparedness Kit.

18 Check to ensure that all your advance preplanning is still valid.

Prior to Evacuation

19 Get a Ziplock bag and put in the copies of your horse's registration papers, insurance papers, the photographs you have taken, copies of the identification papers (write "copy" across the papers.) Fill out an index card with the same information as on the ID tag (given above) and wrap this around the horse's halter with duct tape. Do not put original registration papers in the bag. Remember, during an emergency not everyone is honest.

20 Braid luggage-type tags with the same information as on the index card into the horse's mane and tail (do not tie around the tail).

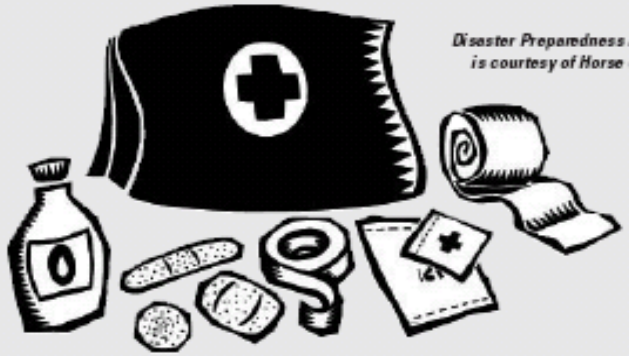
21 If your horse is not permanently identified with a microchip or brand, use small animal clippers and clip your phone number onto your horse's neck. Spray paint or etch the hooves. If your horse is being trailered to the evacuation site by someone other than you, an ID number may be drawn onto the horse with an auction crayon.

22 Pack into your trailer all the extra buckets, feed and hay that you have stockpiled for your horses evacuation, including the portable first aid kit.

23 Transport or prepare to transport your horse to a safe evacuation site. It is best to do this before it is an emergency, even several days in advance. Do not wait until the last minute to remove your animals. Write down and keep in a safe place, the address of the location your horse has been evacuated to.

24 If you are unable or unwilling to remove your horse, make sure all the preparations to keep them on the property are in place — that someone knows that you are on the property and have your horse with you. If you are staying with your horse on the property, take two plywood boards and spray paint on one side of the board: "Have Horses, need help!" and the other side: "Have horses, OK for now." Keep these in the barn or near the house. Use them to keep rescue and emergency personnel informed in case the communication lines are severed.

The above Disaster Preparedness Information is courtesy of Horse Council BC.



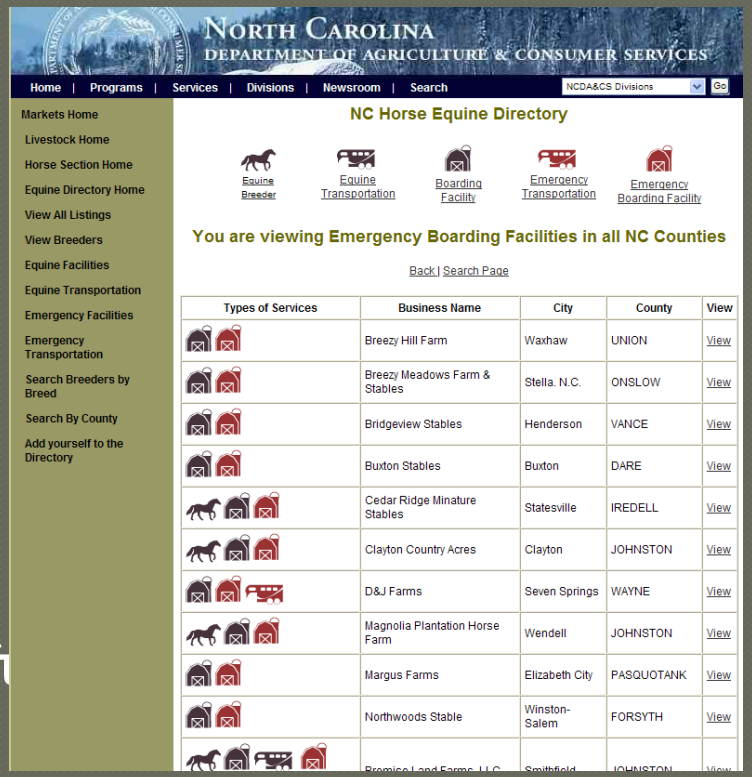
Resources for owners

- Shelters
  - Commercial Stables
  - County
    - Local shelters
  - Regional Unknown Status
    - Rescue shelters for horses of unknown Coggins status
  - Regional Known Status
    - State Facility shelters for horses with known Coggins Status

Commercial Stables

- Website: www.ncagr.com/markets/livestock/horse

- Inquire of health requirements
- Owner expense
- Gen. have Vet support
- May provide just "space" upt o f
- Arrange ahead of evacuation



County shelters

- County list: http://www.ncagr.com/oep/
- Critical that owners provide care for their horses
  - Supported by REINs and other volunteers (CARTS)
- Most are county fair grounds/4-H Show arenas
  - Website lists county site info
- Local Vet to do Coggins tests on horses out of date
- If County's do not have a local Vet, they can request Vet assistance through County EOC

Regional Known Status Shelters

- State Horse Show Facilities
  - Senator Bob Martin Eastern Agricultural Center, Williamston, Governor James B. Hunt Horse Complex (State Fair Grounds, Raleigh), Western North Carolina Agricultural Center, Fletcher
- Facilities require Current Coggins tests
  - Test w/in prev 12 months for all equidae > 6months age
- Owners care for owners

Regional Unknown Status Shelters

- Shelters that provide shelter to rescued horses or owned horses of unknown status
- Sites: Sampson County Livestock Arena
- Horses may need sheltering for longer time periods
  - May need to relocate to commercial stable (owner known)
  - May need to be fostered or adopted if not claimed (30d post event)

Shelter points

- shelters are all "use at own risk"
  - They have no guaranteed health status
  - It is recommended that all horses be tested by owner 60 days after to leaving stable (Coggins)
- Owners should sign release to treat horse if an emergency arises-see form
- Staffing personnel: REINS, Volunteers, etc

Resources for Owners

- Transport
  - Plan ahead: where to go and when to leave!
  - Owner: Check equipment and load with Emergency provisions

www.ncagr.com/markets/livestock/horse

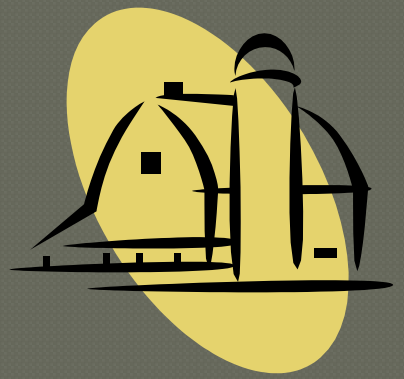
  - Website listing Commercial transport
  - Rescue personnel- may not be available

Rescue

- Teams:
  - Under control of County EOC
  - Local resources (REINs, Clubs)
  - Requested rescue groups
- Rescue personnel must complete
  - Animal Rescue Form to ensure that needed info is captured
  - Release forms
- Staffing personnel: REINS, Volunteers, etc

Shelter Equipment list (1)

- ***ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLIES***
  - Clipboards for stalls/holding pens
  - Volunteer registration forms
  - Volunteer ID badges
  - Animal intake registration forms
  - Registration log book
  - Pens for clipboards
  - Table and chairs at intake area



Shelter Equipment List (2)

- ***CLEANING/ANIMAL CARE/MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES***
  - Buckets, Feed buckets, hay nets
  - Lead Lines, halters of various sizes
  - Plastic lined trash containers/Plastic bags
  - Scoops, manure rakes, or shovels to remove manure
  - Wheel barrel to haul manure
  - Quaternary disinfectant/Bleach/cleaning fluid
  - Hay and feed /Water
  - First Aid Kit (for volunteers and horses)
    - Band-Aids,Gauze pads and rolls,Self adhesive elastic wrap, Antibiotic cream, Rubbing alcohol

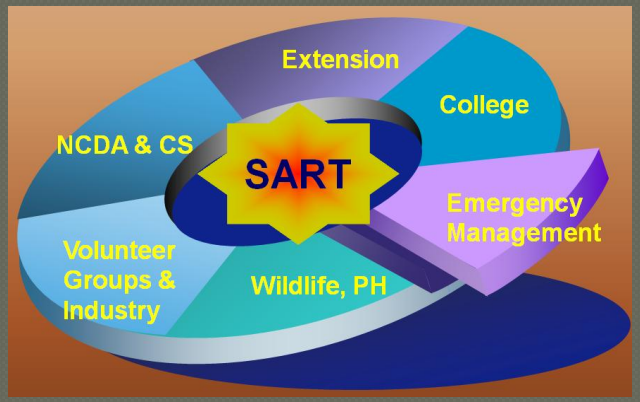
Volunteers !!!

- Trainings:
  - Depends on the task
  - SART Level One Responder
    - ICS 700, ICS 100, HazMat Awareness and SART 101
- Code of Conduct
- Volunteer Release
- Liability and Workers Comp (SART Level Ones)
- http://nc.sartusa.org/

Requests for help

- Protocol:
  - Use EM channels
  - County EOC….WebEOC or other

Disaster Issues

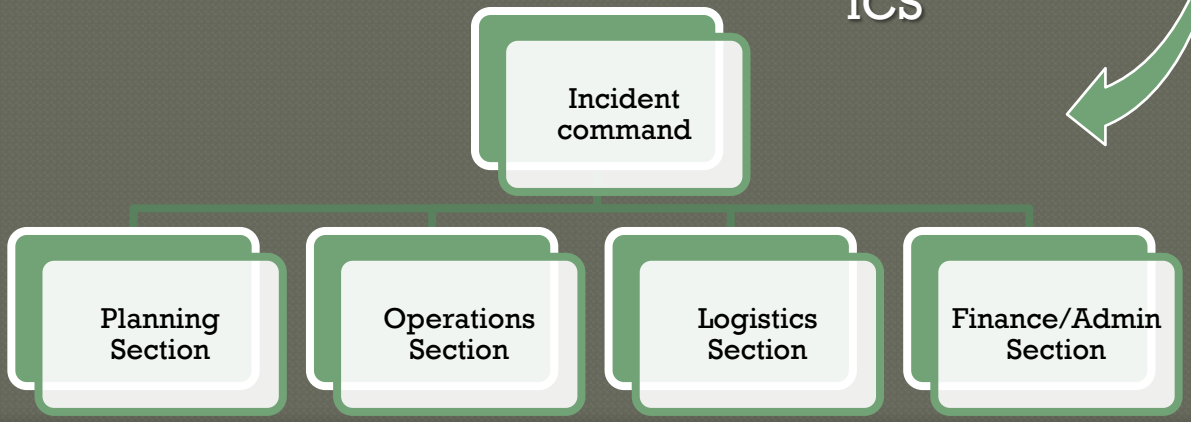


Partnership

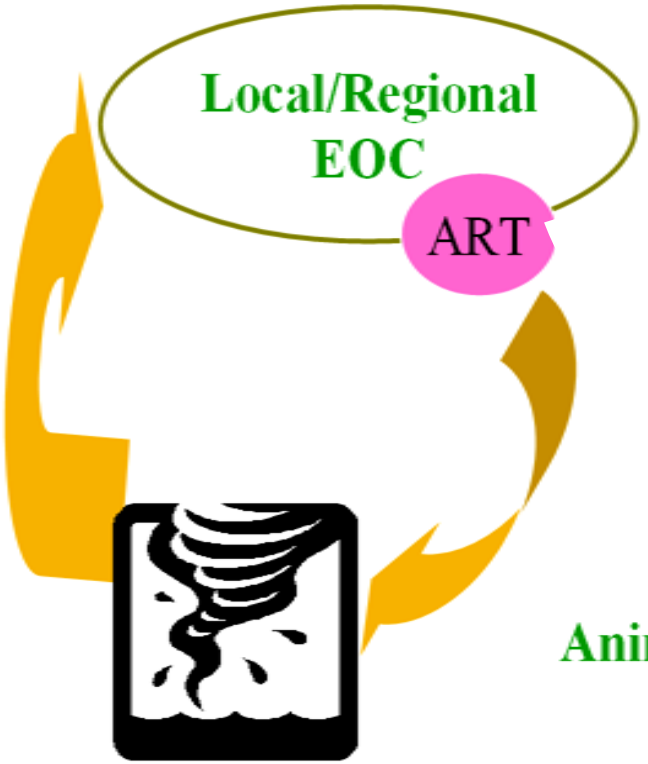
Develops resources for response

MAC

ICS



Natural disaster:



Animal Resources

Resources from State Level

- Personnel
  - Vets, Volunteers, Out-of – State Responders
- Equipment & Feed
  - Donations
- Expertise
  - SART Partners

Questions ???