

Safe Haven Equine Rescue and Retirement Home, Inc.

Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Plan

Identification

All horses at Safe Haven Equine Rescue and Retirement Home, Inc. will have a picture of their head, both sides, rear, and close ups of any unique markings in a web-based file and in a hard copy file. The hard copy file will be kept in a fire proof safe. This will aid disaster workers in returning horses to Safe Haven Equine Rescue and Retirement Home, Inc. after the disaster.

The Executive Director will keep a weather app on his/her phone with settings for alerts turned on at all times. The radio in the office and barn will always be turned to a local channel.

First Aid

There will be an emergency first aid kit kept in the vet area at all times. First aid will be given when and as needed by someone certified in CPR and First Aid. The Executive Director, Barn Manager, Rescue Manager and Office Manager will be CPR and First Aid certified.

First Aid for horses will be administered by a trained volunteer.

Tornado

Safe Haven Equine Rescue and Retirement Home, Inc. will be closed to the public and all visitors will be asked to leave at once if a tornado watch is issued in Upshur County. If a tornado approaches while people are on Safe Haven Equine Rescue and Retirement Home, Inc. property and cannot leave in time, they will be allowed to take shelter in the home of Richard and Debbie Fincher.

Hail

All volunteers and visitors are to remain in the barn until the hail passes.

Weathering the Storm

Using common sense, taking into consideration barn structure, trees, power lines, and the condition of surrounding properties the Executive Director will decide if horses are kept in the barn or in the pastures during any storm. The following guidelines will be followed in either case:

In the Pasture

- No overhead power lines
- It should be well away from areas that might generate wind driven debris
- It should have both low areas that animals can shelter in during the storm and higher areas that will not be flooded after the storm
- Should have woven wire fencing

In the Barn

- Remove all items from the barn aisle and walls, and store them in a safe place
- Have a two weeks supply of hay (wrapped in plastic or waterproof tarp) and feed (stored in plastic water-tight containers)
- Place these supplies in the highest and driest area possible
- Place a supply of hay with each horse
- Remember, trees could be down blocking roads, meaning that returning to the barn immediately following the storm may not be possible
- Leave two buckets of water in each horse's stall

- Have an emergency barn kit containing a chain saw and fuel, hammers, a saw, nails, screws and fencing materials
- Place this kit in a secure area before the storm hits
- Have an ample supply of flashlights and batteries, and at least one battery-operated radio
- Using camper tie-downs, secure all vehicles, trailers and maintenance equipment
- Before leaving the barn, attach identification to all horses
- Turn Off circuit breakers to the barn before leaving, a power surge could cause sparks and fire
- Take two plywood boards and spray paint on one side of each board, "HAVE ANIMALS, NEED HELP", on the other side of each board paint "HAVE ANIMALS, OK FOR NOW"
- Put both plywood boards with your feed supply

After the Storm

- Be very careful when you venture outside; live electric wires could be all around
- See to the horses' needs, keeping them as calm as possible
- Carefully try to clean debris from the barn, and clear the driveway out to the road
- Place one of the plywood signs at the edge of the driveway or at the roadside, with the appropriate writing facing the road. Place the other sign in a clear area with the appropriate side facing upwards. Aircraft will be flying overhead, and this will help them determine the severity of the effects of the storm. If there is not a severely injured person or horse, put the OK sign up

Loss of Utilities

Any loss of utilities will be reported to the correct utility company and the Executive Director.

- Phone - Etex (903) 797-2711
 - In the event there is no cell service; drive into Gilmer at find a telephone to use
- Electric — Upshur Rural Electric Coop. (903) 843-2536
 - Unplug all computers until power is restored o If the power outage is due to a down line or frayed wire turn off the main power source
- Water — Sharon Water Supply Corp. (903) 342-3525
 - If water is needed in the barn before water service is restored water may be hauled in from the water troughs outside

Fire Prevention

- Combustible fluids (gasoline, diesel, lighter fluid, etc...) are to be stored in containers that are made specifically to hold them
- Trash is to be disposed of properly and removed from the property regularly either by a service or a volunteer taking to the dump
- Brush piles will only be burned during proper weather conditions and will be watched until it is burned out
- Fire extinguishers are located in the barn and office and shall be checked annually
- All doors are to be accessible from inside and outside at all times
- Smoking will be in designated areas only

Fire

In the event of a fire the following procedures are to be followed:

- Once the fire is discovered, call out loudly "FIRE"
- Use a fire extinguisher to put out the fire
- Have someone else call 911 if possible
 - Address for 911 operator is: 4994 FM 2088, Gilmer, Texas

- If the barn is on fire immediately evacuate the horses
 - The fewer people handling horses at this point the safer everyone will be
 - Make sure all horses are in pastures away from the fire
- All visitors and volunteers are to meet in the driveway