



# PALO ALTO HUMANE SOCIETY

*Helping animals through intervention, education, advocacy*

## AFTER THE DISASTER: IS YOUR HORSE READY?

To prepare your horse for a natural disaster, store the following supplies and first aid items in a protected area.

Keep the smaller items in a portable container such as a plastic bin or a trash can with a lid. Permanently identify your horse with a tattoo, freeze brand, microchip, or tag.

### Supplies

- 1-week supply of your horse's food (grain and hay)
- 1-week supply of drinking water (5 gallons per horse per day)
- Extra food and water buckets
- 1-week supply of any medicines your horse requires
- Cotton or leather halter and lead (nylon will melt in a fire!)
- Photocopies of veterinary records
- Current photo of your horse
- Cotton sheet or blanket
- Horse blindfold
- Baling twine or wire
- Wire cutters
- Gloves

### First Aid Kit

- Cotton leg wraps
- Non-stick pads
- Gauze cling wrap
- Bandaging tape (Elastikon or Vetrap)
- Banamine injection (500mg; for severe colic or tying up)
- Furacin antibiotic ointment or spray
- Antiseptic scrub (such as Betadine)
- Thermometer
- Blunt scissors
- Sterile saline irrigation
- Horse first aid book

### Transporting your horse in an emergency

- Keep your trailer and vehicles in good running condition and ready for emergency evacuation in the case of a natural disaster. If you don't have a trailer, make arrangements in advance to move your horse(s) to a safe area.
- Identify at least two separate evacuation routes from your property.
- Designate a safe shelter area for your horse on or near your property for localized emergencies, and another shelter area out of town for widespread emergencies.
- Make sure your horse will load into any trailer at any time, calmly and quietly.
- Familiarize your neighbors with your barn and your horses, and do the same for them. Have someone watch your property when you are not home.
- Stallions, pregnant mares, and injured or ill animals may need special care. For example, unruly stallions or other horses may require sedation or a separate holding area, near-term pregnant mares should be supervised by people experienced with parturition, and injured or ill animals may need special equipment or medicines.

*(Materials produced by the Palo Alto Humane Society in conjunction with the American Red Cross Northern California Disaster Preparedness Network.)*

