

EQUINE EMERGENCY - EVACUATION, PREVENTION, MITIGATION AND DISASTER HOMEWORK for TRAIL RIDERS

List of Necessary Items (Based on the 10 Essentials) – add to this as needed.

- WEAR a HELMET – PLEASE!
- RIDE WITH A BUDDY – or let someone know where you are going in detail, when you plan to return, and have a really organized plan if riding alone.
- NAVIGATION – Maps, Apps, Compass, Route Recon, GPS, Power, Training in USING them
- COMMUNICATION – Power, Tower, Backup Power
- TOOLS/Equipment – knife, pliers/leatherman, shovel, roundslings, duct tape, rope, etc.
- Clothing - **COTTON KILLS!** Layers, Wool, Waterproof Layer, Backup Clothing Layers
- FOOD and WATER, or a way to get it
- LIGHT, and a backup LIGHT, Batteries or Power
- FIRE – a way to make fire for HEAT may save your life
- Pistol (optional – for euthanasia if needed)
- PLANNING! THEN, PLANNING and REALISTIC planning!

The TLAER STUDY GROUP at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tlaer/> - it is a STUDY GROUP – not a PRAYER GROUP – ***What I mean is - lurk for a while and see what we do in the rules... first.*** You are also welcome to connect with me on my personal FB page (Rebecca Gimenez Husted) where I post all kinds of silliness and opinions... but the TLAER group is more serious.

There is a **FULL WEBINAR SERIES of many related videos to TLAER, safety, etc.**
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQn1j6xFu5I319no-IHTj6AJrely2gYkV>

Overview introduction to TLAER - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvxsftaEHXk> webinar – if you learn something – share it. **If you want to show people an intro to what you learned in class – share it.**

YOUR VITAL STATISTICS? VULNERABILITIES? DO YOU HAVE INSURANCE AND HAVE UPDATED IT!

- How far is it to safety, if forced to evacuate TODAY?
- Do you have backup power and computer resources on the cloud?
- How long does it take YOU to hitch YOUR trailer?
- Are your vehicles ALWAYS fueled at least half full?
- How would your barn be affected if power lost for ONE day?
- What if the outage lasted for 3 days or a week?

TLAER DAILY BEST PRACTICES relevant to ANY DISASTER:

- Implement NO SMOKING and NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES policy within 250 feet of barn.
- Safety meetings are held to discuss various challenges. Monthly to quarterly.
- Ensure all horses are up to date on vaccinations, deworming and Coggins (and paperwork).
- All horses taught to lead, tie, stand tied, all horses are taught to PONY, and to be PONIED from.
- All horses taught to load – and practice a couple times a year.
- All drivers have been taught to hitch and drive trailers – and practice a couple times a year.
- Security of the facility is emphasized (locks, inventory, etc.)
- Basic biosecurity is practiced with all horses at the facility (Quarantine of new horses).
- All personal animals have permanent ID MICROCHIP or BRAND or BOTH, and temporary ID.

FREE thru FEMA -

- a. Incident Command System 100 <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100b.asp>
- b. Livestock in Disasters <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is111a.asp>
- c. Animals in Disaster - Module A, Awareness and Preparedness
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is10a.asp>
- d. Animals in Disaster - Module B, Community Planning
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS11a.asp>

SOME SIMPLE REALISTIC EQUIPMENT & PPE PURCHASES

Be a hero to your horses (and large animals) and get some of the simple things that you can ACTUALLY use to save your animals, and keep yourself safe in the event of an emergency especially out on a trail. These simple tools allow you to perform a huge variety of simple rescue manipulations of animals trapped in mud or ditches or holes or with a hoof thru a stall divider or even trailer entrapment. To me, this is a wiser use of purchasing power than many things in the horse catalogs you see.

- 2 Webbings (10 cm wide, 6-10m long with looped ends) \$100 see HAST
<https://rescue.hastpsc.com/products/accessories/straps/straps.html>
 - Gloves \$15 locally available
 - REFLECTIVE CONSPICUITY TAPE for your trailer (\$65 - 100 for kit) I like 3 M Diamond Tape or you can get pre-done sets at <https://reflective-tape.com/retro-reflective-tape-for-horse-trailers/>
 - HELMET (with chinstrap) \$120 Rescue quality Petzl – available online many places
 - Firearm (price varies – for field euthanasia – locally available – and GET TRAINING!)
 - RECIPROCATING SAW with Battery pack \$120 locally available at hardware stores
 - Heavy duty cane, telescoping Boat Hook or Reach Tool \$20 (marine or dock stores)
 - 10 m of rope (1/2 inch preferred) \$25 local hardware stores
 - VEST / JACKET WITH REFLECTIVE / BRIGHT \$15 local safety or hardware store
 - HAND TOOLS, Duct Tape, Hay Twine \$15 local hardware store
- TOTAL = \$500 (sans firearm)

Familiarize yourself with use of the webbing and tools for cast or down animals before you try it -
<https://thehorse.com/156728/best-practices-for-moving-down-horses/>

[https://www.academia.edu/40591421/How To Manipulate a Recumbent Horse Entrapment Clinical or Technical Emergency Rescue Situations](https://www.academia.edu/40591421/How_To_Manipulate_a_Recumbent_Horse_Entrapment_Clinical_or_Technical_Emergency_Rescue_Situations) Manipulations of downed horses – lift, drag, slide

<https://thehorse.com/197456/how-veterinarians-can-safely-restrain-down-horses/> How to hold a horse down if you HAVE to – safer for people, easier to do – and very slow to be adopted because it is new.

Taking Temp / Pulse / Respiration in NORMAL horse https://esc.rutgers.edu/fact_sheet/measuring-tpr/

Then you need to LOOK at your personal WILDFIRE or HURRICANE or FLASH FLOODING or CATASTROPHIC PREDICTION for any potential hazards – that would lead to EVACUATION of your property. Do you know how to be alerted if there is a predictable disaster coming? Do you have the apps on your phone or computer that can track the progress of wildfires, hurricanes or other looming

disasters? When you KNOW you are in a looming disaster evacuation zone – there are some basic things you need to do so that you can literally LOAD AND GO with your family, animals and personal valuables in a couple of minutes if you have to:

- Truck(s) hitched to Trailer(s)
- Animals with Priority are separated out and easy to load, under ANY conditions.
- Truck fueled, hitched to trailer and pointed down the driveway
- 3 days MINIMUM worth of food, meds, water loaded up
- Valuables packed and ready and locked up
- GO BAGS packed and loaded (whatever YOU need to live and function in a disaster shelter)
- Everyone contributes to, communicates and knows the plan
- GO TO location / shelter coordinated ahead of time (animals, people, pet locations)
- Regular updates on fire radio and media - see <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>

GENERAL DISASTER PREPARATION - before any disaster happens – these efforts will pay off by determining what can ACTUALLY happen to you (your HAZARD ANALYSIS – then you make your RISK ASSESSMENT) you can make better individual plans to respond if something actually happens.

- Find where your property lies in the FLOODING MAPS (LITERALLY - type in the address at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home> and also see <https://www.fema.gov/risk-map-program-information-homeowners-renters-and-business-owners>) and/or WILDFIRE MAPS (NOT AS SPECIFIC <https://www.weather.gov/fire/> and <https://www.wfas.net/> and <https://www.firelab.org/project/wildfire-hazard-potential>
- GET A WEATHER RADIO and learn to use it. Cheap insurance!
- DOWNLOAD and USE APPS FOR EVACUATION ZONES FOR NUCLEAR FACILITIES OR EARTHQUAKES OR MUDSLIDES, ETC. see https://www2.usgs.gov/natural_hazards/ if you live in one of these geological hazard zones.
- there is a barn fire online awareness TOOL for free at <https://www.equineguelph.ca/Tools/fireprevention.php> and EG has a short courses online....
- Regularly FIX the fences, clean up the hazards in your pastures, and put in a SECONDARY FENCE and a GATE to prevent animals escaping your property – usually at the front gate area. See webinar on catching loose horses - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxLy78Zn9KY>
- Maintain your truck and trailer at all times so that you can evacuate in an emergency – I see way too many people leave hay or the lawnmower on their trailer when they think they aren't using it, or take forever to get tires fixed or other maintenance done. **IT should be READY!**
- FENCE any DAM, POND or WATERHOLE OFF for the winter (or summer droughts) to prevent mud entrapment and surface ice emergencies. If the animals HAVE to use watercourses for access to fresh water – ensure the ice is regularly broken and that it is fenced – so there is no chance of the animals going out onto the surface ice or in the mud.
- Disaster preparedness for horses on pasture and small properties - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aX68UNuLjQ> webinar
- Develop an evacuation plan and actually PRACTICE IT, hitch the trailer, load the stuff, load some animals, etc. and drive to a local park to practice. **TIME IT. How can you improve the plan?** What did you forget that you would need in a real emergency? **MAKE A LIST!** Where would you really go if it was out of state or out of the region? Coordinate these things ahead of time.

Next – if you keep horses in a barn or any kind of structure – you will want to make sure you are preventing fires. (Research shows that actual removal of horses from barn fires is rare, difficult and requires someone to be present when the fire starts to remove animals within 5 to 7 minutes!)

- The MOST important change you can make is to contact an electrical contractor and have them update all Electrical Wiring and Power Panel to provide the service for what your barn is actually using. A challenge for barns in many areas is that they don't require adherence to codes because they are agricultural – *just because the lights turn on doesn't mean it is a safe place for your animals.*
- Within the barn – everyone must work together to manage the facility to eliminate or reduce all the combustibles (don't store hay in the barn) and remove obstacles blocking egress for both people and animals – ensure that there are exits / egress sufficient for size of barn (less than 50 feet to an exit).
- Fundamental to finding barn fires before they ignite is a functional Smoke Detection and Alarm System that will alert you and the fire department to the smoldering fire. This isn't a \$5 battery detector from your local store – this needs to be hardwired into the barn and connected to the security system and notification system. Call a contractor and get a quote on a system that is appropriate for outdoor use in barns – so that you can sleep at night! At the VERY least get a detector that can find CARBON MONOXIDE. (While you are at it – upgrade your house and business). (Or TURN HORSES OUT!)
- Access to Stalls FROM AN OUTSIDE DOOR is the best way to allow responders to extricate animals from a barn once it is on fire – it is extremely dangerous to go down the interior aisleway due to smoke and the danger of roof collapse. This adds to the cost of building (or retrofitting) a barn – but it offers a realistic method of removing animals. Even better is to plan for or build in a runout plan from the inside or outside doors so that animals can leave to a pasture away from the barn *without having to be individually caught.*

Download PDF – <https://aaep.org/sites/default/files/issues/proceedings-08proceedings-z9100108000160.pdf> Strategies for prevention (this is horse barns but similar concepts for others)

and

[https://www.academia.edu/18599726/How to Configure an Equine Facility to Prevent and Better Respond to Barn Fires](https://www.academia.edu/18599726/How_to_Configure_an_Equine_Facility_to_Prevent_and_Better_Respond_to_Barn_Fires) How to prevent and respond for barn fires with large animals.

Having a functional and safe TRAILER that your animals will load into, and having a plan for multiple trips if you don't have enough room to evacuate them all in one trip. This applies to day to day use of trailers, as well as emergencies.

LEARN ABOUT: AXLES / BEARINGS, WHEELS, TIRES / BRAKES, HITCHING, BUY REFLECTIVE, AIR IN TIRES, TOOLS FOR FIXING IT, LUBE BEARINGS, ETC. Maintenance. DOWNLOAD FOR FREE: <https://ppp.purdue.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/PPP-114.pdf> UNDERSTANDING THE HORSE TRAILER RIG – Purdue University, Dr. Robin Ridgeway

Specifically for vets and techs - Accidental Hypothermia in Horses - <https://www.afac.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/The-Hypothermic-Horse.pdf>

For owners and all responder types – prevention for horse trailer wrecks - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYDU4Vy2Kvk>

Free download of PDF - [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283794562_Non-Commercial Horse Transport New Standards for Trailers in Canada](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283794562_Non-Commercial_Horse_Transport_New_Standards_for_Trailers_in_Canada) or [https://www.academia.edu/18507742/Non Commercial Horse Transport The need for standards](https://www.academia.edu/18507742/Non_Commercial_Horse_Transport_The_need_for_standards) by Dr. Creiger and Dr. (Gimenez) Husted – issues and challenges for horse trailer manufacturers – it is free and you can learn a lot from it. ESPECIALLY if looking at buying a horse trailer!

Three webinars – **Horse Barn Fire Prevention and Horse Trailer Safety part 1 and 2** – hosted by the **US Hunter Jumper Association** at their archived webinars – link - <https://www.ushja.org/education/educational-forums/educational-webinars/archives>

Trailer Safety: Part 2 Dr. Rebecca Husted from Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue returns to further discuss all aspects of trailer safety. This webinar will continue the discussion from Trailer Safety: Part 1 and look at common mistakes with trailers giving you important information that will increase your personal safety in the truck, your horses' safety in the trailer and prevent a crash in the first place! The webinar is free to the public and can be accessed here .	May 3, 2022
Trailer Safety Dr. Rebecca Husted from Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue returns to discuss all aspects of trailer safety. This webinar will look at common mistakes with trailers and give you important information for prevention and mitigation that will increase your personal safety in the truck, your horses' safety in the trailer and prevent a crash in the first place! The webinar is free to the public and can be accessed here .	November 2, 2021
Barn Fire Safety and Prevention Dr. Rebecca Husted from Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue discusses everything you need to know for barn fire safety and prevention. This webinar will provide an essential checklist for horse owners, riders and barn managers to do the prevention and mitigation that will increase the efficiency of response to the reality of barn fires. You only have five to seven minutes to remove everything you love—will your plan work? Find out in this webinar! The webinar is free to the public and can be accessed here .	October 18, 2021

UNITED STATES



HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION™

NFPA 150 information - here is the "simple overview version" of what we are doing for LIFE SAFETY and FIRE SAFETY in ANIMAL HOUSING- <https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Publications-and-media/NFPA-Journal/2018/November-December-2018/Features/The-Critter-Life-Safety-Code>

This is the complicated version of what we are doing NFPA 150 - you can read the document for free at <https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=150>

MAKING EUTHANASIA DECISIONS - INFORMATION:

Horses may not be able to say how much it hurts with words, but researchers show their face tells all. Learn to recognize the signs of the equine pain face, also known as the equine grimace scale. <https://horsesandpeople.com.au/the-equine-pain-face/> and <http://www.southwestequine.com.au/the-equine-pain-scale/> are good resources to read and inform.

Dr. McGreevy's article on making end of life decisions for your horse - <https://horsesandpeople.com.au/how-to-make-horse-euthanasia-decisions/>

Field Euthanasia of horses and other animals – with downloadable posters and wallet cards on HOW. <https://vetmed.iastate.edu/vdpam/about/production-animal-medicine/dairy/dairy-extension/humane-euthanasia>

This is a link to the research on the INTRA-THECAL method of euthanasia - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4895652/> This is AAEP's standard procedure for it - https://aaep.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/Intraethecal_Euthanasia.pdf This link has all the updated Guidance Protocol info and links within it - <https://thehorse.com/197960/aaep-issues-updated-horse-euthanasia-guidelines/>

This is a new online tool for owner education that Equine Guelph - I think it is a GREAT way to educate and might enjoy learning while doing it - free - <https://thehorseportal.ca/healthcare-tools/senior-horse-challenge-tool/> Give it a try - they have put a bunch of education in there that I think owners will appreciate. **INCLUDING - pain issues, euthanasia decisions, and other topics that are sometimes difficult to address.** If you like it- share with colleagues and organizations. I did!

Be your animal's hero by prevention, planning and coordinating ahead of time.