

A photograph of a brown and black dog swimming in blue water. The dog's head and one ear are above the surface, and its tail is visible behind it. The water is a vibrant blue color.The logo for World Animal Protection, featuring the text "WORLD ANIMAL PROTECTION" in a bold, sans-serif font inside a white circle with a black border. A small orange triangle is positioned at the bottom left of the circle, and a small orange dot is at the top right.

Protect your pet in a disaster

Downloadable Disaster Pack for Horses

Just as you do with your family's Disaster Survival Kit, think first about the basics, for your horse – **food, water and warmth.**

Think about two Disaster Survival Kits –

1. One kit for if you need to stay at home for up to three days.
2. The other, a more portable lightweight version (Getaway Kit) for when you, your family and your horse need to leave quickly.

Remember: If where you are is not safe for you, it is not safe for your animal.

Place these kits somewhere easy to get to in a hurry. And make sure everyone in the house knows where they are kept, including a neighbour.

Always re-check these kits for expiry dates, to ensure supplies stay fresh – particularly the food, water and medicine items. Water should always be replaced every six months to ensure freshness.



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Prepare for your Horse – Checklist

Emergency Survival Items:

- **Food:** Store at least three days of horse food (silage, hay, pellets etc) somewhere dry.
- **Water:** Store at least three days of water for your horse, in addition to the water you need for your family.
- **Medicines:** Store any extra supply of medicines your horse needs in a waterproof container, as well as any special dietary needs or supplements.
- **Veterinary/Medical/Branding Records:** Store copies of any medical, vaccination and registration/branding records in a watertight container including your vet's name and telephone number (in case you have to board your horse or place them in foster care).
- **First Aid Kit:** Make up a first aid kit for your horse or add to your household's (human) first aid kit. But make sure you talk to your vet about specific first aid requirements such as fly spray, antibiotic ointment and saline solution (ie eye wash solution separate from your family use).
▶ [Click here for a full First Aid Kit for Pets](#)
- **Sanitation:** Include useful items such as a spade, newspapers, paper towels, plastic bags, gloves and household bleach (to dilute).
- **Back up:** As a back up, please save microchip details, medical and veterinary details, key contact details and all photographs electronically - to places such as 'Dropbox', your mobile phone or save a folder in your Webmail (ie gmail). This means you can still access these vital details if you are cut off from returning to your horse.

Equipment:

- **Halter and lead:** And other equipment which would help you or others handle your horse.
- **Float:** This is to transport your horse safely and ensure they cannot escape. Your horse may also have to stay in the float for hours.

Identification:

- **ID Information:** Add any possible ID information to your horses' halter, lead and cover that clearly states their name, your name, phone number and if there is room your address. Include a back up in your horse's Disaster Survival Kit.
- **Photograph:** Store a current photograph of your horse in a waterproof container, including notes on: distinguishing features, name, sex, age, colour and breed. Also include a photograph of you and your horse together as this helps prove they are yours if you become separated.



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Safe Shelter Places

If you need to evacuate, you may also need to take your horse.

- **A Safe Paddock:** Plan and agree with a family member, friend or paddock owner (who doesn't live with you) if they will care for your horse for any length of time, in case of a disaster.
- **Place their full name, address and telephone number in your Disaster Survival Kit in a waterproof container.** All adults and children in your household should know these primary and alternative contacts (names/addresses/contact numbers) or always carry this information with them.
- **Show them and a neighbour where your Disaster Survival Kits are** (the one kit for you and your horse staying put. And the other kit for you and your horse's getaway) just in case you are not at home when disaster strikes and you are cut off from returning to your horse. This means your neighbour can at least feed and attend to your horse in the interim.
- **Also show them how to access a spare key to where your Disaster Survival Kits are housed.** Or even better provide them with a key (as your hiding place may be destroyed in a disaster). Have a plan to communicate with your contact after the event.

Give it a go

To ensure your family and horse can move fast, you should practice getting your family to your safe paddock. You can time yourselves and give it another go from time to time to see how fast (but not panicked) you can operate.

By practicing an evacuation your horse will get use to entering into and travelling calmly in their float.

Also try evacuating in the dark. This will ensure you can navigate quicker if a disaster strikes during the night or if there is a power cut.

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