



THURSTON COUNTY EQUINE OUTREACH (TCEO)

NAVIGATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

TCEO Volunteers

TCEO Volunteers have developed the TCEO website as a self-help resource for Thurston County Horse/Mule Owners as well as other interested parties. Thurston County has experienced earthquakes, wild fires, floods, mud slides, snowstorms and other natural and man-made disasters in the past. Our website provides information, reports, articles, flyers, instructions and forms at no cost. We encourage Horse/Mule Owners and Barn Managers to participate in critical conversations and Table Top Exercises researching best practices, available resources, supplies and equipment at their facility in order to be fully prepared should disaster strike. Feel free to utilize the information and forms to assess your risk, identify available resources and equipment and ultimately to develop your personal emergency response plan.

Our goal is for each Horse/Mule Owner and Barn Manager to develop their own unique protocols/procedures to guide their response in the event of a natural disaster or emergency. Technical Assistance provided by TCEO Volunteers may be available to assist in facilitating a self-administered Survey for Emergency Response Readiness; identify and prioritize available resources, services and equipment; and develop an Emergency Response Plan for your barn. Presentations on using our website may be provided by TCEO Volunteers to horse clubs such as 4-H, Pony Club, Back Country Horseman, breed and discipline clubs, large boarding barns or other interested horse/mule enthusiasts.

Equine Information Form

Horse/Mule Owners - complete an Equine Information Form on each horse you own. These forms are available as "fillable copies" on our TCEO web site. Be sure to transfer/copy and paste a picture of you and your horse together to the form. Email to yourself and your Barn Manager and make hard copies for yourself to keep in your truck/trailer and Barn Binder. If you are unable to use the electronic version, run a hard copy off and legibly complete the form, attaching a picture of you and your horse. These can be copied and distributed as well.

Equine Evacuation Collars

TCEO has designed an inexpensive Equine Evacuation Collar. These collars can be hung on the front of individual barn stalls/doors, hung on pasture gates or kept in buckets with lids within easy access. The Equine Evacuation Collar is simple to use, one size fits all, from Pony to Percheron. The Collar is unique with the capacity to hold the TCEO Equine Information Form with complete and comprehensive information on each horse in a waterproof, plastic pocket. A band of Reflective Tape has been added to the plastic pocket to ensure that horses that potentially get loose in the dark can be found. These Collars can quickly and easily be secured around the neck of a Horse/Mule to ensure that critical information stays with the horse no matter what the emergency response might be. (Ordering instructions and alternative web sites listed on web site).

Emergency Response Plan Components

- Establish "Call Tree" with names, phone numbers, emails and addresses of horse/mule owners, family, friends, neighbors, trainers, barn managers and other individuals in chain of authority approved to make decisions.
- Contact information for local law enforcement, fire departments and emergency response personnel to ascertain severity of emergency and timeline for evacuation.
- Contact information for Washington State Patrol for road closures, street and highway conditions.
- Contact information for individuals approved to transport horses/mules.
- Contact information for veterinarians, animal shelters, alternate boarding locations such as neighbors, reciprocal barn resources.
- Signed Permission Forms from each owner to evacuate, transport, treat, feed, medicate, euthanize horses/mules in case of an emergency.
- Master list of all horses that can be safely pastured with other horses or require separation.
- All resources identified for emergency boarding, pasture, stalls in immediate area if transport is not available.
- Equine Evacuation Information Form completed on each horse/mule and placed in Equine Evacuation Collar or in a plastic sleeve on barn door or pasture gate.
- Completed Equine Evacuation Check List available in Barn Binder/Notebook.
 - Emergency lighting and electrical outlets available via generator.
 - Alternate water supply available on property.
 - Adequate water hoses accessible on property.
 - Barn exits clearly marked.
 - Street address posted clearly for Emergency Response vehicles.
 - Neighbors advised of evacuation.
 - Visible sign placed at entry way of who and what animals have left property and who is still on premises if unable to evacuate all horses.
 - Halters or Equine Evacuation Collars kept at stall doors and pasture gates at all times.
 - Fire extinguisher available, operational and training for all up to date.

- Complete Equine Go-Bag Check List available in Barn Binder/Notebook.
 - o Tool Box accessible in barn and transport vehicles (bolt cutters, Chicago Screws, duct tape, fence cutters, hammer, hatchet, pliers, screwdrivers, tarps).

Equine Response To-Do List

The To-Do List begins with the development of an Emergency Response Plan . It is recommended that all Horse/Mule Owners meet initially in a group with the Barn Manager to develop the plan listing collective resources, available equipment and supplies. This process should be followed whether there are 5 or 50 boarders. An annual meeting should be scheduled to update the Emergency Response Plan with current resources, equipment and supplies.

Equine Response Go-Bag list

The Go-Bag List has been developed from a compilation of Horse/Mule Owners' lists, Emergency Service Agencies and Volunteers that have proven to be most beneficial based on their climate or environment. Each individual should ascertain their potential risk and needs and develop their own Go-Bag and best location to hold resources, supplies and equipment in case of emergency evacuation.

Barn Binder/Notebook

Barn Binders or Notebooks should be updated regularly and kept within easy access in a central location in the Barn. Each Binder should contain a completed Equine Information Form on each horse/mule at the facility as well as an Emergency Response Plan, Equine Evacuation To-Do List and Go Bag List summary checked off for those items kept the Barn. The forms and information in the Barn Binders should be kept in individual plastic protective sleeves. A hard copy Binder should be held by the Barn Manager and if possible, an electronic copy of all information available to Horse/Mule Owners and the Barn Manager. If neighbors are included in the Emergency Response Plan as resources, consider providing them pertinent information as well.

BE READY/BE SAFE
