

# Fact Sheet

*Sources of Technical Assistance, Education and support for Small Farms in Marion County-*  
*Fact Sheet 1*

*Requirements for Successful Farming-*  
*Fact Sheet 2*

*Selecting your Enterprise-*  
*Fact Sheet 3*

*Developing your Marketing Plan-*  
*Fact Sheet 4*

*Evaluating the Feasibility of your Selected Enterprise*  
*Worksheet 1*



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## 'Surviving the Storm'

### *How to Prepare your Livestock and Small Farm*

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**What is expected of you, the Owner?** –Farm owners have the ultimate responsibility for their animals. As the owner you need to create a personal emergency plan that includes provisions to care for your animals

### The Four Phases of Emergency Management

#### **Mitigation: preventing future emergencies or minimizing the effects**

Includes any activities that prevent an emergency or reduce the damage of unavoidable emergencies Ex: Knowing food & water requirements for your livestock is a mitigation activity

#### **Preparedness: preparing to handle an emergency**

Includes plans or preparations made to safely secure and care for your livestock Ex: Creating a first-aid kit, evacuation plan, emergency barn kit and animal identification system is a preparedness activity

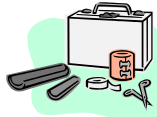
#### **Response: responding safely to an emergency**

Includes taking action to save your livestock and prevent further property damage Putting your emergency management (preparedness) plan into action Ex: turning off circuit breakers to the barn

#### **Recovery: recovering from an emergency**

Includes actions taken to return to a normal or a safer situation following an emergency Ex: getting financial assistance to help pay for the repairs

# An Emergency Management Plan for your Livestock

1. **Scout your property and barn structures– where are your animals the safest?** Check the condition of the barn including the roof., if the barn is not safe consider open fields but check for location of power lines and number of trees. Further, check your fence rows for weak areas or if trees can fall on your fence line allowing animals to escape. Take steps to secure your fence if needed. Remove any poisonous plants and trees, trees that have fallen or flooded areas may force animals to nibble on other forages they may not normally eat that can be toxic to them
2. **Pick up all debris/limbs from pastures and around home–** objects such as tree limbs and jumps can become flying objects and injure animals.
3. **Place your livestock hurricane kits/plans in a safe visible location**
4. **Have a written plan in place–** including evacuation plan and rescue plan
5. **Evacuation kit–** see example next page
6. **First-aid kit–** see example on next page– **place**  **in one location/handbag**
7. **Know food and water requirements–** see table next page
8. **Emergency barn kit–** Chainsaw, fuel, chain lubricant, saw, hammers, nails, screws, duct tape, screwdrivers, fencing materials, tarps, flashlights, batteries, ladder– **Place kit in a secure area before the storm**
9. **Create an Animal Identification System–** see examples next page



## DON'T FORGET A DISPOSABLE CAMERA

10. **Have a list of Emergency Contacts–** see back page
11. **Consider creating a neighborhood/small farm disaster committee–** You can assist your community in developing and improving community disaster plans for the care of animals by forming a committee. This committee can serve to determine what equipment and resources are available from other farmers in your area and learn who has skills to offer in what areas. This type of committee can be a valuable tool to help the small farmers deal with hurricane issues, determine important areas of need to provide care for livestock and recovery. The committee should consist of local farmers, veterinarians, animal industry representatives (feed stores), county representatives



12. **After the Storm–** See to your animals, keep them calm as possible, allow your animals to rest/sleep. Check for live wires, survey property and barn to identify sharp or damaged objects, dangerous wildlife, contaminated water, damaged fences or other hazards. Release livestock in safe/dry place, watch for fire ants and other dangerous insects they will look for dry places to nest. If lost animals post notices locally and contact code enforcement and animal control. Put out “livestock need assistance” flag, if you have an emergency only, at end of driveway.

## Evacuation Kit:

- Have all vaccinations up to date, vaccination type and date (coggins, health certificate, rabies if applicable)
- Medical history/conditions
- Have copies of proof of ownership
- List animals and their species, breed, age, sex, color and characteristics
- Current photographs of animal
- Emergency contact list
- 3-7 day supply food, hoof pick, leg wraps, halters, leads, twitch, water buckets, map of local area and alternate routes, rope or lariat, radio, trash cans for water

## First-Aid Kit: Consult with Veterinarian

- Wound ointment, saline solution
- Eye ointment (wash)
- Bandages, scissors, tape, cotton rolls, vet wrap
- Peroxide, 1% iodine wound
- Mineral oil, Pepto-Bismol
- Tweezers, towel/washcloth/latex gloves, thermometer
- All medications, Bute, liniment ointment
- Fly spray

## Food and Water Requirements: Animal Identification System:

Species	Water	Food (type)	Feed (quantity)	Feed (Frequency)
Beef	5-15 gal	Coastal, oat	15-30 lbs	Daily
Dairy	5-30 gal	Alfalfa	15-40 lbs	Daily
Horses	5-20 gal	Coastal, alfalfa	8-15 lbs	2x daily
Pigs	1-2 gal	Corn,	1-7 lbs	1-2x day
Llamas	2-5 gal	Alfalfa, oat hay	2-4 lbs	2x day
Goats	1-2 gal	Alfalfa, oat	1-5 lb	Daily
Sheep	1-2 gal	Alfalfa, oat	2-5 lb	Daily

*Free choice water at all times, hay is more important than grain during a disaster, stock up 2 weeks of hay/feed supply wrapped in tarp or plastic, use 32 gal + trash cans to store water, collect rain water*

- ID leg bands
- Attach luggage tag to halter or braid into mane or tail
- Body clip phone #
- Livestock marking crayon/spray paint
- Ear tags, tattoos, branding
- Permanent marker to hooves
- Mane clip
- TAKE A PICTURE!

**Evacuation Plan:** includes leaving animals at the farm or taking them to another location

- Leave extra buckets of water- you may be gone longer than 24 hrs or farm is inaccessible
- Leave supply of hay
- Before leaving the farm, attach identification to animals
- Notify neighbors, friends and/or family where you will be during the storm
- Have a destination and at least two routes

thought out in advance (remember everyone else is leaving at same time and it can become more stressful if transporting livestock)

- Turn off circuit breakers to the barn and shut off well
- Location of alternate farms to house animals
- Arrange transportation of livestock in advance if not transporting your self
- Have temporary fencing on hand and in plain sight (in case emergency workers have to secure animals etc.)

## **Be Safe, Be Prepared and Be Responsible**

**“For only YOU can protect your farm the way it needs to be protected”**

### **Resources:**

American Red Cross *Barnyard Animal Rescue Plan*. Retrieved April 25, 2005, from [www.redcross.org/services/disaster](http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster)

*AVMA Disaster Preparedness Series Saving the Whole Family*. Retrieved April 25, 2005, from [www.avma.org/disaster/saving\\_family.asp](http://www.avma.org/disaster/saving_family.asp)

*Hurricane Preparedness for Horse Owners*. Retrieved April 25, 2005, from [www.floridahorse.com](http://www.floridahorse.com)

# Emergency Contacts for the Farm

*(keep one copy by phone and one in evacuation kit)*

All your contact #'s (pager, cell, work, home, family)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your pre-arranged evacuation site

\_\_\_\_\_

Local Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_

Local Animal Control \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Management Hot Line \_\_\_\_\_

Code Enforcement \_\_\_\_\_

Boarding Facilities (Local - 90 miles) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Equestrian Center/show grounds \_\_\_\_\_

Sheriff Department \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department \_\_\_\_\_

Public Health Department \_\_\_\_\_

Environmental Health \_\_\_\_\_

Local Humane Society \_\_\_\_\_

Local Livestock Haulers \_\_\_\_\_

Local Feed Store \_\_\_\_\_

Local Hardware Store \_\_\_\_\_

Extension Service \_\_\_\_\_