

Bear Valley Springs Equine Emergency Plan

The Bear Valley Springs Association Equestrian Center has developed an Equine Emergency Plan. The plan includes plans and procedures for responding to an emergency that would affect equine owner who reside within Bear Valley Springs, California. This plan includes the following:

- The communication of relevant information to equine owners.
- The temporary sheltering of equines at the BVS Equestrian Center.
- If necessary, the temporary staging of equines in prearranged areas.

One or more of the above functional procedures can be activated independently for an incident as needed.

Goals

- Deliver timely information to the equine owners to enable them to make informed decisions regarding the welfare of their animals in case of an emergency.
- Predetermine the areas and procedures to be used for any function of the plan.
- Minimize confusion during an emergency by establishing procedures for communications, emergency sheltering and, if necessary, short term staging.

The plan addresses emergency equine functions within the geographical boundaries of Bear Valley Springs.

The BVSA has established an Equine Volunteer Teams. These teams enact the procedures and carries out the elements of the plan.

The plan does **not** address everyday occurrences that could be resolved by local resources in a timely manner, nor does it provide official assistance with the transportation of equines.

What to do first

If you own an equine we urge you to register by completing the form that is part of this display.

The Bear Valley Springs Association welcomes your participation on an Equine Volunteer Team in your area of the valley. Please call the Equine Center at 661-821-3690.

Bear Valley Springs Disaster Preparedness for Equines

Equines require extra consideration in disaster planning

A good disaster plan is vital to keeping yourself and your animal companions safe. But equines require extra consideration because of their size and specific transportation needs. Since you won't have much time to think or act during an emergency, take time now to create an effective emergency plan.

Planning for a disaster

Permanently identify each equine by tattoo, microchip, brand, or photograph. In your records, include the equine's age, sex, breed, and color. Keep this information with your important papers.

Keep halters ready for your equines. On each halter attach a luggage tag with the following information: the equine's name, your name, email address, your telephone number, and another emergency telephone number where someone can be reached. At the time of evacuation, consider additional temporary identification such as a leg band.

Place your equine's veterinary papers, identification photographs, and vital information—such as medical history, allergies, and emergency telephone numbers (veterinarian, family members, etc.)—in a watertight envelope. Store the envelope with your other important papers in a safe place that will be easy for you to access, so you can take them with you when you and your equine(s) evacuate.

Make arrangements in advance to have your equine trailered in case of an emergency. If you don't have your own trailer or don't have enough room in your trailer for equines, be sure you have several people on standby to help evacuate your equine.

Evacuation

It is important that your equine is comfortable being loaded onto a trailer. If your equine is unaccustomed to being loaded onto a trailer, practice the procedure so it becomes used to it.

Know where you can take your equine in an emergency evacuation. When possible, make arrangements with a friend or another equine owner to stable your equine well beyond the region at risk. Contact your local animal care and control agency, agricultural extension agent, or the Bear Valley Springs Equestrian Center at 661-821-3690 for information about emergency shelters in your area.

If you cannot evacuate with your horse

Have a back-up plan in case it's impossible to take your equine with you when you evacuate. Consider different types of disasters and whether your equine would be better off in a barn or loose in a field. Your local humane organization, agricultural extension agent, or the Equestrian Center Manager will provide you with information about our Emergency Equine Plan.

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Share your individual evacuation plans with friends and neighbors. Post detailed instructions in several places—including the barn office or tack room, the equine trailer, and barn entrances—to ensure emergency workers can see them in case you are not able to evacuate your equine yourself.

When disaster strikes

Don't leave your equine behind. A situation that isn't safe for you won't be safe for your equine companion, either.

Evacuate immediately. If you wait until the last minute to evacuate, emergency management officials may tell you that you must leave your equine behind. In this case, your equine could be unattended for days without care, food, or water.

Supplies

Prepare a basic first aid kit that is portable and easily accessible.

Be sure to include enough water (12 to 20 gallons per day per equine), hay, feed, and medications for several days for each equine.

Bear Valley Springs Equine Registration Form

The information provided on this form will be used only when necessary to contact Bear Valley Springs large animal owners with critical official emergency information. These communications will be made in addition to **Code Red** and Ready Kern notifications so you make better informed disaster related decisions..

Participation in the Bear Valley Springs Equine Emergency Communications Plan (BVS EEP) is entirely voluntary. To be included in the BVS EEP communication tree and to receive emergency information, fill out the information below and then sign and date the form. Participants need only sign up for the BVS EEP once, unless their contact information changes.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND LEGIBLY:

Address:

Track/Lot: _____ Home Phone: () --

Types of Animals:

Name:

Cell Phone: Accept Texts? Yes/No Carrier:

Work Phone:

Name:

Cell Phone: Accept Texts? Yes/No Carrier:

Work Phone:

Work Phone:

By signing, I am agreeing to the following:

- I understand and consent for the BVS Equestrian Center Manager to print and distribute my contact information to members of the Equine Emergency Communications Team such as, but not limited to, BVS Equestrian Center Staff, designees, Block Captains, and Block Captain Assistants, for the sole purpose of providing emergency information.
- I understand that the BVS Equestrian Center Manager may hold communications exercises on an annual basis in order to practice this notification method.
- I understand It is my responsibility to make sure my contact Information is up to date by contacting the BVS Equestrian Center Manager.

Signature: _____

Date: / /

Initial here _____ to have the above contact information added into the Bear Valley Springs **Code Red** official emergency notification system.

Questions may be directed to the BVS Equestrian Center Manager.