

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

**Eldorado Community Stables  
11 Avenida Eldorado  
Santa Fe, NM 87508**

**Update 5/4/2022**

## INTRODUCTION

Horse owners at the Eldorado Community Stables are urged to prepare for potential disasters, primarily wildfires. Past wildfires in New Mexico, most notably the 2000 [Cerro Grande fire](#) in Los Alamos, underscore the need for **individual** plans involving the emergency evacuation, care and temporary shelter of your equines.

The reality of a fire evacuation is this: While a friend or neighbor may offer to trailer your horse out of harm's way, if this requires two trips, fire officials may not allow trailers back into the stables to remove horses. Get out early.

[NM Fire Info | Information](#) provides real-time fire incident information including wildfire starts and evacuation information. **We strongly recommend all equine owners sign up for this service.** You can choose to receive alerts from this service via email, Twitter or Facebook.

In addition, to further protect our amenity, the Eldorado Stable Committee (ESC) has put in place an emergency telephone alert system (much like an Amber Alert), using information from NMfireinfo.com, to notify Eldorado horse owners of an impending emergency. The ESC's DialMyCalls broadcast message system may be used to send an alert to the cell phone numbers provided by barn owners and sharers (underscoring the importance of ensuring that your roster contact information is current). This alert may include details around an evacuation and identifying temporary safe havens throughout the area. The caveat is that with these emergencies, when priorities are the emergency, official public communications may be delayed.

## Summary Checklist:

- Ahead of any emergency, and best equine practice, is to have travelling papers from the [New Mexico Livestock Board](#) for all of your horses, documenting you as the owner. These are required even when trailering for pleasure, medical emergencies and in non-natural disaster situations.
- It is strongly recommended that your horse's halters have ID tags which include your name and phone number. Leather and cotton are preferred materials for halters and leads as these don't melt under extreme heat so will not burn your horses.
- You can also take a Sharpie pen and write your phone number on your horses' hooves. Permanent ID's are a microchip, lip tattoo or freeze brand.
- Best practice is also to adhere to a regular maintenance schedule for your trailer and tow vehicle. As danger approaches, check your trailer's tire pressure and keep your tow vehicle's gas tank full.
- If you own a trailer but do not trailer your horse often, work with your horse or horses to train them to load easily. Remember a fire emergency is chaotic and stressful for both horse and rider. Your horses must be obedient in order to evacuate safely.
- If you do not own a trailer, the above trailer training holds true: Practice loading into the trailer that will evacuate your horse so your horse can be taken to safety.
- Establish a buddy system plan with your barn neighbor(s), especially if you do not have a horse trailer. Determine the following ahead of time:
  - responsibilities in the event of an evacuation
  - who will be responsible for trailering
  - where equines will be taken
- Consider keeping a pair of bolt cutters in a secure location in your barn to cut locks if necessary.
- Avoid dietary changes by bringing three day's worth of hay
- Know that in disasters, horses from several areas may mix in designated safe havens, resulting in the spread of contagious diseases. Safeguard your horse as much as possible by keeping vaccinations up to date and having proof of a Coggins test so your horse will be allowed on off-site facilities.
- Evacuated horses from different areas and sheltering in public safe havens may mean horses are sharing corrals which can trigger aggressive behavior resulting in injury to equines. You assume this risk in an evacuation.
- The county sheriff does not recommend setting your horse loose. Per their policies, should you require assistance in recovering your horse, government resources may not be available as they will likely be allocated to other higher priority emergency measures.

**Fires can also erupt spontaneously within barns at the Eldorado stables.** To avert and contain these:

- Never smoke or allow visitors to smoke at the Eldorado Stables.
- Immediately contact the ECIA, the ESC and the Eldorado Fire Department should there be a fire in your personal barn.
- Keep a working fire extinguisher in your barn.
- If you have solar lighting or battery powered lighting, ensure that wiring is up to code.
- Make sure that your propane is stored properly.

## Appendix 1 - On-line resources:

- [NMfireinfo.com](http://NMfireinfo.com)
- [Fema](http://Fema)
- [Santa Fe County of Emergency Management](http://Santa Fe County of Emergency Management)

## Appendix 2 - Possible Emergency Shelter

- **Santa Fe County Rodeo Grounds**, [jgbutler408@gmail.com](mailto:jgbutler408@gmail.com) or call or text 505-316-5141
- **HIPICO**, [rv@hipicosantafe.com](mailto:rv@hipicosantafe.com), 505-474-0999
- **Santa Fe Downs**, 27475 W. Frontage Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87505, 505-471-3311
- **National Animal Poison Control Center**  
(888) 426-4435 (24-hours, fees may apply)
- **American Humane Association** (natural disaster support and relief), (800) 227-4645
- **Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association (NNMHA)** is sanctioned by the Santa Fe County Animal Humane Society for emergency evacuation of equines.  
Contact President David Marks: [david.marks.sf@gmail.com](mailto:david.marks.sf@gmail.com) 505-466-0306
- **Santa Fe Animal Shelter and Humane Society**, 505-983-4309