Wildfire Preparedness for Horses
Horse Evacuation Checklist

Simple tools you’ll need to build an evacuation kit for your horse:

» Large bin or tote with a lid—preferably a waterproof type
» Clear waterproof sealable plastic bags in multiple sizes
» A Sharpie-style writing utensil for labeling and marking contents
» Note pad for documenting special details and needs
» Pen or pencil
» One or two flash drives to store copies of paperwork (Copying all the information outlined in the following sections onto a flash drive will provide access if you’re evacuated and unable to take the kit due to limited time. Having a backup flash drive that you provide to a friend or relative, is also a good idea so you have an alternate copy if you’re unable to take the primary one with you.)
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The following items need to be included in each evacuation kit and also stored on the flash drives:

**Records:**
- Copies of Ownership Records
- Breed registration papers
- Brand inspection
- Bill of Sale
- Insurance paperwork

**Microchip Paperwork:**
- Include copies of your horse’s microchip paperwork. Update the address listed on the paperwork as needed to keep it accurate and current
- Consider enrolling your microchipped horse in a registry

**Identification:**
- Photos of brands
- Photos of you with the horse showing any unique markings or tattoos

If you’re unable to evacuate with the horse, use one of the identification options below:

- Use spray paint or a livestock crayon to write your name, phone number and address on the side of the horse
- Use clippers to shave your phone number into the horse’s coat
- Braid a temporary ID tag with pre-written contact info into the horse’s mane
- Attach a neck band with your contact information
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» Vaccination/Health Records:
  » Copies of all current vaccination records
  » Copies of Health Certificates

» Medications:
  (Your vet’s office may also be evacuated or closed during a wildfire, so this information will be important)
  » A list of all current medicines and their associated doses
  » If possible, keep an extra supply of medicine that your horse(s) need. Ensure each is labeled with the horse’s name and a description if you have multiples (periodically check the expiration dates and replace as needed).

» Tack:
  » Rope and halters
  » If you’re unable to evacuate with the horse and choose to let it loose, ensure the halter and rope are not made from a nylon material, since it could melt during fire’s extreme temperatures
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» List of important phone numbers (remember cell phones and Internet access could be temporarily out of service and you’ll need a printed list to connect with these resources):
  » Veterinarian
  » Local animal control agency
  » Animal shelter/boarding facility
  » Friends or relatives who would be willing to temporarily take your horse until you’re able to return home
  » Keep a clipboard of all the important numbers in a highly visible area in the barn in case you’re not home and first responders are able to provide assistance
  » Neighbors in your Buddy System Network (a buddy system network is a previously arranged shared process where neighbors evacuate each other’s horses (if possible) when you’re away from home during an evacuation)

» Food and Water:
  » Hay and grain for three to seven days (store in an airtight waterproof container that’s rotated every few months
  » Water for three to seven days
  » Feed and water buckets
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» Miscellaneous items:
  » Dry shavings for the stall
  » Pitchfork
  » Leather gloves and towels
  » Muzzle (if needed)
  » Grooming supplies
  » Fly spray
  » Fly masks

» First aid kit and animal first aid book:
  » Items should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape, scissors, tweezers, duct tape, vet wraps, medical-type gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution

» Cleaning supplies:
  » Paper towels, trash bags, spray cleaner, disinfectant and hand sanitizer

» Storing your kit:
  » Keep your emergency evacuation kit in a dry location where the temperature does not get too hot or below freezing.
  » Make sure it’s in an easy-to-reach spot where you have quick access for vehicle loading

» Trailers:
  » Make sure your vehicle is set up to tow the horse trailer
  » Make sure your trailer is in road-worthy condition
  » Practice loading your horse in the trailer prior to an evacuation