Equine Preparedness

# Equine Grab List

* Brand inspection
* Vaccine records
* Photo
* Lead rope and halter
* Critical medications
* Water/water bucket
* Flashlight
* Wire/fence cutters

Along with critical supplies for your horse, think ahead about what things you will want to take with you during an evacuation. This should include critical medications or medical equipment, a phone or other communication device, and irreplaceable items.

# Get Emergency Alerts

Register for alerts at [www.BOCOalert.org](http://www.BOCOalert.org).

* Get alerts through phone call, text, and e-mail
* Add up to 5 address locations

OR

Download and use the ReachWell app.

* No sign-up or having to share personal information
* Get alerts through cell phone notification
* Alerts available in over 100 languages Get all alerts sent out in Boulder County

Remember – you are always your first form of alert. Trust your gut. If you see, hear, smell, or sense something is wrong, make decisions to keep yourself safe - even if you haven’t received an alert!

# Plan Ahead

## ID your animals.

* Microchip your horse ahead of time, or in a bind use an ID tag you can braid into their mane or write your phone number on them (with non-water soluble paint).

## Build your network.

* There’s power in numbers – build your network of friends and neighbors who can help you to evacuate or care for your horses in a disaster.

## Assess your skills and resources regularly.

* This goes for you, and your horse - assess both of your ability to handle catching, trailer loading, etc.
* Remember to practice trailer loading to get both of you comfortable before stressful disaster times hit.
* Assess your trailer regularly to ensure wheels, flooring, hitch, etc. are all in safe and good working order.

## Practice.

* Practice trailer loading with your horse regularly to keep your skills up.
* Practice hooking up your trailer and driving with it.

## Make your property safer.

* Harden your structures by building or retrofitting with materials that don’t catch fire easily. Reduce vegetation or other materials that can catch on fire easily - especially within 5 feet of all structures.
* Maintain privately owned roads.
* For home assessments on how to reduce your wildfire risk, talk with your local fire department, or Wildfire Partners ([www.wildfirepartners.org](http://www.wildfirepartners.org))

## Where to go:

* If you’re able to, plan ahead with friends or facilities thatyou could evacuate to during a disaster.
* If you’re unable to evacuate to another property to stay safe, visit www.boulderodm.gov for information on open shelter locations for large animals.

## In a bind:

* If you are not able to evacuate your horse, consider your options. Cutting fences and allowing horses to get away from the hazard may be the best option if you’re not able to evacuate them in another way.
* If you cut fences, cut them at the corners to make the exit area easier for your horse to find.
* Be sure to close all gates and barn doors so that your horse does not try to go back into a hazardous area.

For more preparedness information visit [www.boulderodm.gov/preparedness](http://www.boulderodm.gov/preparedness)