



# Equine Care Checklist:

## PREPARING YOUR HORSES

### Pasture vs. Barn

- Depending on the shelter or structures available, horses are often best kept out at pasture during a storm.
  - Keeping horses indoors is only recommended if you can confirm the structure was built to withstand hurricane-force winds. If structures are compromised in the storm, horses can be trapped inside which can lead to serious injury or death.
- If you are in a known flood zone or in threat of a flood, consider evacuating horses to an area you know will not flood.

### Preparing Horses

- Utilize a method of identification in the event horses are separated from you during the storm (multiple methods/pieces of identification are best).
  - Braid a dog tag with your contact information into the horse's mane.
  - Water resistant livestock paint can be used to write contact information on the horse's side.
  - Consider microchipping as a form of permanent identification, which can be done by your veterinarian.
- Remove nylon or rope halters. If necessary, only use breakaway halters or a breakaway leather strap/neck collar.
- A fly mask can be worn to prevent eye injuries during the storm.

### Feed & Water Supply

- Stock up on water. Keep 10 to 12 gallons per horse, per day in stock and prepare for 3 days minimum (7 days is best).
  - Line trash cans with plastic bags or use rain barrels to store water before the storm.
- Stock up on extra feed and hay before the storm to prepare for potential transportation or supply issues.
  - Ensure you have enough forage to last at least 72 hours post-storm, but a week supply is best.
  - Keep feed in a safe, dry place that will not be impacted during the storm.