



Preparing Your Livestock for Emergencies

Preparation Guidelines:

- Ensure animals have some form of identification that will help facilitate their return.
- Evacuate animals whenever possible. Routes and host sites should be made in advance. Alternate routes should be mapped out in case the planned route is inaccessible.
- You should be able to readily obtain food, water, veterinary care, handling equipment and facilities.
- If you do not have enough trailers to transport all of your animals to an evacuation site establish a network of available and reliable resources that will provide transportation in the event of a disaster. Note: it is best to allow animals a chance to become accustomed to vehicular travel so they are less frightened and easier to move.
- If evacuation is not possible, a decision must be made whether to move large animals to available shelter or turn them outside. This decision should be determined based on the type of disaster and the soundness and location of the shelter.

Cold Weather Guidelines: Make sure your livestock has the following to help prevent cold-weather maladies:

- Shelter
- Plenty of dry bedding to insulate vulnerable body parts from the frozen ground and frigid winds
- Windbreaks to keep animals safe from frigid conditions
- Plenty of food and water

Take time to observe livestock for early signs of disease and injury. Severe cold-weather injuries or death primarily occur in the very young or in animals that are already debilitated.

Animals suffering from frostbite don't exhibit pain. It may be up to two weeks before the injury becomes evident as freeze-damaged tissue starts to slough away. At that point, the injury should be treated as an open wound and a veterinarian should be consulted.



For more information on disaster preparedness, contact
The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

1-800-478-2337

Or visit our website at www.ready.alaska.gov

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