

## OWNER INFORMATION

JEFFERSON COUNTY HORSE COUNCIL ~ PO BOX 1177 ~ GOLDEN, CO 80402-1177

[www.JeffcoHorse.com](http://www.JeffcoHorse.com)

**MISSION** - Jefferson County Horse Council Large Animal Evacuation Team is strictly a volunteer organization comprised of people from the horse industry with the objective of providing short term/temporary housing for large animals during emergency evacuations. Owners are strongly encouraged to make other arrangements as soon as possible. Housing and feed for the animals are provided at no cost. Any additional expenses, which may occur, can become the responsibility of the owner depending upon the circumstances.

**FACILITIES** - As a rule, the primary holding facility for evacuated large animals will be the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, and the Foothills Animal Shelter will be the primary facility for small/domestic animals.

**ANIMALS ACCEPTED** - Facilities will accept only animals located within areas that have received a reverse 911 call for either a mandatory or voluntary evacuation. Owners who live outside of these areas must either make alternative arrangements at other facilities or wait until their area is under an official evacuation.

**TRANSPORTATION TO** - Owners may bring their animal(s) directly to the facility themselves. Owners who need assistance with evacuating their animal(s) should contact a Jefferson County Animal Control officer at 303-271- 5070. Please note that at a staging area or holding facility, the volunteer haulers will be given first priority to unload and check-in their animals in order to help them quickly get back to the scene to further assist other owners and animals.

**EMERGENCY IMPOUND FORM** - Before unloading any animal, owners must first complete the IMPOUND Hauler and the Identification section (shaded in gray) of an Emergency Impound Form for each animal. This form is used to track the animal during the evacuation as well as, if necessary, to trace where the animal may be subsequently located. Each animal will also have a paper ID collar with a number used for identification and tracking of the animal during the evacuation.

**SECURITY** - No one is allowed near the evacuated animals without an ID badge. Owners must check in at the office before every visit to receive a visitor ID badge which must be returned when the owner checks out and leaves the Evacuation Site. Visitor ID badges must be worn at all time and clearly visible. All minors (those under the age of 18-years old) must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**SAFETY AND WELFARE** - The animals arrive under stressful conditions and are in unfamiliar surroundings. Not knowing the animals' backgrounds, horses will be provided with grass hay and water only. Other animals will be fed according to their needs. Owners may care for their own animals with permission from the Barn Manager but NO special feed can be kept on premises. Feed times are 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Owners should make every effort to do supplement feedings at those times. Owners may exercise, groom and supplement their animals. Barn hours are 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM with exceptions considered for medical care and emergencies only.

If an animal becomes sick or injured a veterinarian will be called and the owner notified. Only a veterinarian will be able to prescribe medication and only EET special care personnel, barn managers or owners may administer medicines. Owner can discuss medication needs with the EET Special Care Manager at the time the animal is dropped off or at any time during its stay.

**ANIMAL RELEASE** - Owners are responsible for their animal(s) return transportation, (the office may have an unofficial list of professional haulers). Animal(s) may be released during the hours of 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Owners must provide a valid photo I. D. as well as proof of ownership for each animal before an animal will be released. In Colorado ownership of livestock including horses is solely determined by a brand inspection/ permanent travel card issued by the State Brand Inspectors. Be aware, evacuated animals are impounded by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department.

**POST EVACUATION** - As long as the facility has space and staff available, the animals may stay for up to 24-hours after the evacuation orders have been lifted. Owners will then be responsible for taking their animal(s) home or finding an alternative location to house their animal(s). Jefferson County Fairgrounds is currently unable to provide stalls/pens after an emergency evacuation has officially ended. Any unclaimed cattle and/or horses will be turned over to the State Board of Stock Inspection Commissioners as abandoned livestock if not claimed at the end of an evacuation. Any other unclaimed animals will become the responsibility of Animal Control.