

OWNER INFORMATION

JEFFERSON COUNTY HORSE COUNCIL ~ PO BOX 1177 ~ GOLDEN, CO 80402-1177
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 section (shaded in gray) of an Emergency Impound Form for each animal** provided by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office – Animal Control Section. 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 receive a rump tag to be attached to the base of the animal's tail with a number that will correspond to any accompanying paperwork. This tag must remain on the animal for the duration of the animal's stay at the facility.

SECURITY - **No one is allowed near the evacuated animals without a visitor pass or ID badge.** Animal owners will be allowed with visitor passes only, and all minors (those under the age of 18-years old) must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Owners must check in at the office before every visit to receive a pass and check for updates or messages. Management and volunteers will have clearly visible ID badges for easy identification of appropriate personnel.

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 who feed their own animal(s) must feed on our schedule. Owners **only** may exercise, groom and supplement their animals. **Volunteers cannot**. **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. Only a veterinarian will be able to prescribe medication and only barn managers or owners may administer medicines. **Vets must authorize the administering of any medication by Barn Managers if Vets/Owners cannot do it!**

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** (the State of Colorado requires that all classes of horses, cattle, mules or donkeys have current livestock brand inspection paperwork) **before an animal will be released. 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). If necessary and space permitting, the Jefferson County Fairgrounds allows owners to keep their animal(s) there, but owners will have to pay the Fairgrounds the standard overnight charges as well as make arrangements to provide their own feed and care. Because Colorado is a brand certificate state; any unclaimed cattle and/or horses will be turned over to the State Board of Stock Inspection Commissioners as abandoned livestock. Any other unclaimed animals will become the responsibility of Animal Control.