Module 4 - Everyone goes! Evacuating pets and large animals.

Good to Go Sunol!

How to get ready, stay informed, evacuate and return from wildfire





Download additional workbooks at https://GoodtogoWildfire.com Questions? E-mail us at GoodToGoSunol@gmail.com

Module 1 - Getting Ready to Go! How to know when to go.

Module 2 - Set to go! What to take when you go.

Module 3 - Way to go! How to know which way to go.

Module 4 - Everyone goes! Evacuating pets and large animals.

Module 5 - Going home! Tips for returning after a wildfire evacuation.

Module 6 – Just in time!

Last minute tips to help you evacuate from wildfire evacuation.



Funding for this project provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as part of the California Climate Investments Program.

Module 4 – Everybody goes!

Preparing to evacuate pets and large animals.

Topics

- Pet preparedness
- Pet Evacuation
- Large animal evacuation

Actions

- Pets' Go Bag Checklist
- Evacuating Cats Checklist
- Evacuating Dogs Checklist
- Evacuating Other Species Checklist
- As a Last Resort Checklist
- Pet First Aid Checklist
- After the Wildfire Checklist
- Lost and Found Pets Checklist
- Wildfire Planning for Your Barn & Farm Checklist
- Evacuating Large Animals Checklist
- Evacuating Horses Checklist
- If You Must Leave Livestock or Horses Behind Checklist



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Pet Preparedness

During a disaster what's good for you is good for your pet. Get them ready too.

Prepare

Just like for each family member, build a Go Bag for each animal with items for basic survival (more detail on next page).



Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends or relatives to be able to evacuate your pets while you are at work or away.

Talk to your Vet about: what to include in your pet's first aid kit, names of vets or vet hospitals in cities outside of the area and microchipping.

Plan

Create plans for both to "get away" and to "stay."

First important decision is to go or stay. Plan for both possibilities.

If specifically told to evacuate or to shelter in place, do so immediately.

Public shelters may not allow your animal inside. Secure appropriate lodging in advance for number and type of animals. Options:

Family or friends outside of area

Pet friendly hotels or motels http://www.gopetfriendly.com

Boarding facilities (kennel or vet hospital). You may need to board your pet if you are unable to return home right away.

Practice Your Plan

Practice having your buddy evacuate your pet. Can they load your pet into a carrier? Gather the go bag? Know where to meet you?

Make a list of contact information and addresses of area animal control agencies, human society, SPCA, emergency hospitals. Practice using the list once a year to keep information current.

For more practice see animal specific recommendations on following pages.

Stay Informed

Adapt to changing situations. Follow instruction from authorities on scene.

Try to take your pets with you, but don't become a fatality trying to save them.

Action: Pets' Go Bag Checklist



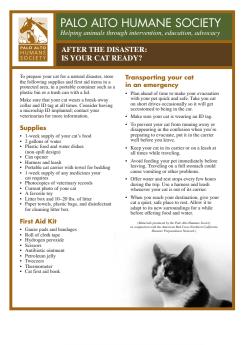
- Food. 3 days of food in airtight waterproof container
- Water. 3 days of water specifically for pets in addition to water for family
- Medicines and medical records. Stay up to date on vaccinations as most boarding kennels, veterinarians and animals shelters will need proof of current shots.
- First aid kit (talk to your vet) cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors, antibiotic ointment, flea and tick prevention, latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol, saline solution, pet first aid reference book.
- Collar with id tag + rabies tag, harness or leash. Include back up leash, collar and id tag in first aid kit.
- Consider micro-chipping and enrolling pet in recovery database (include both your contact information and contact outside your immediate area).
- Crate or carrier large enough for pet to stand, turn around and lie down.
- Sanitation pet litter, litter box, paper towels, trash bags chlorine bleach (16 drops per gal water to sanitize not scented or colored bleach)
- Familiar items such a treats, toys and bedding to help reduce stress.
- A picture of you and your pet together. Add note with species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics, for if you become separated.



Action: Evacuating Cats Checklist

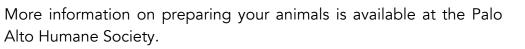
More information on preparing your animals is available at the Palo Alto Humane Society.

- Plan ahead to make your evacuation quick and safe.
- Practice short drives to get your cat use to being in the car
- □ Make sure cat is wearing ID. Consider having your pet chipped. Talk to your vet.
- Put cat in carrier early. Before they become frightened and difficult to catch. Make sure carrier is big enough for them to turn around and lie down. Consider enclosing them in the bathroom or other small space first.
- Keep cat in carrier or on leash at all times.
- Avoid feeding immediately before travel
- Offer water and rest stop every few hours.
- Provide a quiet place once you reach your destination. Wait a few hours before food and water





Action: Evacuating Dogs Checklist



- Plan ahead to make your evacuation quick and safe.
- Practice short drives to get your dog use to being in the car
- Make sure dog is wearing ID. Consider having your pet chipped. Talk to your vet.
- Put dog on leash or in carrier early. Before they become frightened and difficult to catch. Make sure carrier is big enough for them to turn around and lie down. Consider enclosing them in the bathroom or other small space first.
- Keep dog in carrier or on leash at all times.
- Avoid feeding immediately before travel
- Offer water and rest stop every few hours.
- Provide a quiet place once you reach your destination. Wait a few hours before food and water





Action: Evacuating Other Species Checklist



More information on preparing your animals is available at the Palo Alto Humane Society.

- □ Birds are very sensitive to smoke. If leaving be sure bird is removed first and carrier is well covered to keep smoke out.
- □ For birds and reptiles offer fruits and vegetables in high water content instead of water.
- □ For birds and reptiles consider portable heat source in cool weather. Or a mister to mist your bird's feathers if it hot.
- ☐ For birds and small mammals, cover container to calm during transport. Birds need a certain amount of light each day. If you cover the carrier make sure to allow a few hours of light, either natural light of flashlight.









Action: As a Last Resort Checklist

If you have no alternative but to leave your pet at home there are some precautions you must take, but remember leaving your pet at home alone places your animal in great danger.

As a last resort if you must leave your pets.



Do

- Confine pets to the house, preferably in a room with few or no windows
- Separate dos and cats (and dogs of different sizes) to avoid fights
- Put out plenty of fresh water and dry food. Less platable food is best, as your pets will be less likely to over-eat.
- Use non-spill bowls for food and water. Or leave a tap dripping as a water source.
- □ Leave a note or sticker on front door or window notifying rescuers of animals inside.
- If possible have someone check on your animals at lease once a day.

DON'T

- Don't leave pets outside to fend for themselves. A post disaster area is a dangerous pet. Your pet will be scared, confused and disoriented.
- Don't leave animals unattended where there is a swimming pool. They could drown attempting to drink.
- Don't leave vitamin tables accessible. They are usually tasky and pets may eat them all at once causing salt poisoning and other problems



Action: Pet First Aid Checklist

Have a first aid kit. in portable container.

- Gauze pads, gauze roll and or bandages
- Rolls of cloth tape and medical adhesive tape.
- Scissors
- Thermometer
- Tweezers
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Antibiotic ointment & petroleum jelly
- Cotton sticks (Q Tips)
- Instant cold pack
- Rags and rubber tubing for tourniquet
- Muzzle
- Animal first aid book
- Talk to your Vet about other first aid items for your pet.
- Learn pet first aid. Red Cross has an on-line course.
- Download an App, such as from the Red Cross.
- Learn pet's vital statistics
- \Box Understand when vet care is needed.
- Learn basic first aid procedures.
- Learn how to handle an injured animal.



More information on First Aid for Animals is available at the Palo Alto Humane Society. https://www.paloaltohumane.org/education-programs/disaster-preparedness/.







Action: After the Wildfire Checklist



- Check your house and surrounding area for hazards. Wear heavy shoes to avoid injury. Do not let your pet out until everything is cleared.
- Supervise your pet while outdoors. Familiar scents and landmarks may have disappeared, leaving your pet disoriented or confused.
- Drink only water you have determined is safe to drink. If unsure boil for at least 20 minutes before using for your pet's drinking (or yours). You can also purify with regular household bleach -16 drops of bleach per gallon.
- Inside house open closets and cupboards carefully to make sure contents have not shifted.
- Keep pets away from wildlife who are also stressed and unpredictable after a disaster. Call your local wildlife rescue organization if you fined a displaced animal. Do not feed wildlife; this will only create more problems.
- Give your pet lots of reassurance and comforts, as it will be frightened. But don't overdo the attention. Allow your pet plenty of time and space to recover from the disaster.
- Watch for signs of stress - changes in eating, drinking or sleeping, vomiting, diarrhea, fear, aggression, insecurity etc. If symptoms are severe or last more than a week, consult your vet.



More information on returning home with animals is available at the Palo Alto Humane Society.

https://www.paloaltohumane.org/educationprograms/disaster-preparedness/.



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Action: Lost and Found Pets Checklist

If you lose a pet

- Place ads in local stores on social media & read ads.
- Contact rescue groups for your breed.
- Post flyers in neighborhood and local shelters.
- □ Visit shelters at least every other day.
- Inform neighbors, mail carriers etc. about pet.
- Search neighborhood on foot at dusk and dawn.
- Search farther than you expect.
- \Box Don't give up.

If you find someone's pet

- □ Contact local humane societies/ shelters.
- Check local papers, social media for lost pet notices.
- □ Put up found pet signs with your phone number. If possible include a photo.
- Keep pet until owner is found, or find someone else who can keep it.

When you find your pet

- May be difficult to catch. If you see your pet outdoors, it may be so frightened that it runs from you. Try catching it with a humane box trap. Use caution handling your pet as a scared or injured animal may bite or scratch.
- Examine pet for injuries and signs of dehydration or illness. Take it to the vet as soon as possible for a thorough exam.
- Expect an adjustment period. Allow your pet to readjust at its own pace. It may not each much for a few days, or it may hide.
- Provide place for pet to hide and feel safe, such a s a closet, but which is easily accessible to you. That will allow you to keep an eye on your pet to make sure it's healthy. It will also enable you to catch your pet quickly if you need to re-evacuate your home.
- Have patience. Comfort your pet but also give it time by itself. Patience and affection will help your animal cope with disruption and return to normal.





Wildfire Planning for your Barn & Farm Checklist



Prepare your barn & farm. Develop specific plan of action for wildfire.

<u>Assemble disaster kit</u>. Keep supplies in covered waterproof containers in easily accessible spot. Include:

- \Box Food and water for each animal for at least 3 days.
- \Box Food and water for each human for 3 days.
- Animal first aid kit and first aid book.
- Leather or cotton halters and leads, collars, hog snares, hot shot etc.
 Blindfolds or bandanas. Nylon and synthetic materials can melt in fire and injure animals.
- Flashlight, weather radio plus extra batteries.
- Buckets for food and water.
- Basic firefighting supplies for spot fires fire extinguishers, shovel, rake, long hoses, buckets, ladder, wheelbarow.
- Identification photos and medical records for each animal (if possible).
- Rope, wire, wire cutters. Gloves. Wrenches for turning off gas and water valves. Other tools you may need
- Blankets or sheets.
- Change of clothes for humans (see dress for survival).

<u>Post a diagram</u> of your barns and property at each entrance and in all rooms within a barn. Information should include

- **D** Emergency phone numbers
- □ All exits
- □ Shut-off points for water, gas and electricity
- □ Stored emergency supplies
- **G** Firefighting equipment
- □ Safety zones
- □ Trailers

<u>Water sources</u>. Find or create several alternative water sources on your property. Use storage tanks and water troughs. Prepare way of obtaining water from running streams or springs.

<u>Reduce fire hazards</u> in and around your barns.

- Enforce no smoking rules
- **G** Store gas, paints, solvents and other flammables in separate area
- **G** Store hay, straw, shavings and manure and wood away from barn.
- Clear vegetation for at least 50 feet. Prune overhanging trees.
- Clean gutters and roofs regularly.

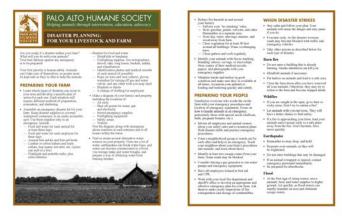
<u>Id animals</u> with freeze marking, branding, tattoos, ear tags, microchips. Store copies of medical records, papers and photographs with emergency supplies.

<u>Maintain trucks and trailers</u> in good condition and make sure they're available at all times. Accustom your animals to lading and trailering quickly and calmly.

<u>Prepare your people.</u>

- Familiarize all your people with emergency procedures and location of equipment. Hold disaster drills and practice procedures.
- Focus on how to handle animals in an emergency particularly those with special needs (stallions, bulls, pregnant females etc.)
- Form a neighborhood group to watch out for each other. Teach neighbors about farm's procedures and animals and learn about theirs.
- □ Identify at least 2 escape routes from your farm. Some roads may be blocked.
- Consider buying gas generator to run water pumps and emergency equpment.
- Train in first aid and CPR.

<u>Work with local fire department</u> and sheriff's office to develop emergency plan. Ask for annual inspection of fire extinguishers and storage of combustibles.



More information on developing a plan for your barn and farm is available at the Palo Alto Humane Society.



Action: Evacuating Large Animals Checklist



Preparing horses and other large animals for a wildfire evacuation requires an extra level of planning, preparedness and practice. If you have large animals such as horses, cattle, sheep, goats or pigs on your property, be sure to prepare before a disaster.

- Ensure all animals have some form of identification. Spray paint or livestock crayon to write your name and phone number on side of animal. Braid temporary ID into horse's mane. Attach neck-band. Also have photos of brands and of you and your animal showing unique markings or tattoos.
- Evacuate animals EARLY whenever possible. Don't hesitate, fires move quickly. Map out primary and secondary routes in advance.
- Ensure destinations have food, water, veterinary care and handling equipment.
- Load evacuation kits in trailers and vehicles.
- Provide vehicles and trailers needed for transporting and supporting each type of animal. Provide experienced handlers and drivers for each trailer. Vehicle should be set up & tow trailer. Trailer maintained in road worthy condition and prepositioned to connect to vehicle. Practice loading your horse prior to evacuation.
- If evacuation is not possible, animal owners must decide whether to move large animals to shelter or turn them outside. Let animals run loose have a better chance of finding safety.

See CAL FIRE for more information. https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/5408/rmac-3animal-evacuation.pdf



Wildland Fire Safety for Your Livestock and Pets

You've taken steps to keep your family and home fire safe. Don't forget your pets and livestock. With some advance planning you can increase their chances of surviving a wildland fire.

Livestock restock Clear defensible space around your barns, pastures and prop-erry just as you do your home. PRC 4291 requires clearance around all structures on your



around all structures on your property.
Pinn ahead, know where you would evacuate the animals. Contact your local fairgrounds, usokyards, equestrian centers, finends etc. about their policies and ability to take livestock temporarily in an emergency. Have several evacuation routes in mind. If you don't have your own truck and trailer, make arrangements with local companies or neighbors before disaster strikes. Make sure your neighbors have your contact numbers (cell phone, work, home, etc.).
Have vaccination medical records, registration papers and photographs of your animals (proof of ownerholp) and your Disaster Preparedness Kit.
If you must leave your animals, leave them in a preselected, cleared area. Leave enough hay for 48 to 72 hours. Do not refy on automatic watering systems. Power may be low.
Do not eval until the lax minute to start exacuation?

- systems. Power may be lost.Do not wait until the last minute to start evacuating!

Livestock Disaster Preparedness Kit - Hay, feed and water for three days - Non-nylon leads and halters - First aid items - Wire cutters and a sharp knife - Hoof pick - Lee wraps

- Leg wraps Shovel Water buckets
 - Plastic trash barrel with a lid
 - Portable radio and extra batteries Flashlights



wuring a wiidland fire, local animal rescue organizations work with law enfor-ment and fire departments to rescue as many animals as they can. In battling a wildfire, firefighters will do what they can but they are not responsible for evacuating your livestock. Firefighters may cut fences or open gates to free trapped animals.

Action: Evacuating Horses Checklist

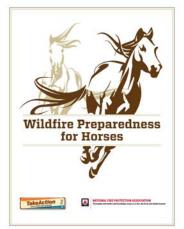


Building evacuation kits, and having a plan that has been practiced, increases the potential your horses will be able to leave when you do.

- □ Food and water. Hay and grain for 3 to 7 days (in airtight water proof container rotate every few months. Water for 3 7 days. Feed and water buckets.
- Medications your vet may be evacuated or office closed during wildfire. List of current medications and doses. If possible keep extra supply of medications (periodically check expirations and rotate as needed)
- Tack: Rope, halters, stud chains.
- Phone numbers: printed list of veterinarian, local animal control agencies, animal shelter, boarding facility, friends or relatives willing to temporarily board horse, neighbors in your buddy system network. Keep clipboard of important numbers in highly visible area in case others can provide assistance.
- First aid kit and animal first aid book. Cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape, scissors, tweezers, duct tape, vet wraps, medical type gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution.
- Cleaning supplies: paper towels, trash bags, spray cleaner, disinfectants and hand sanitizer.
- Miscellaneous: dry shavings for stall, pitchfork, leather gloves and towels, grooming supplies, fly spray, fly masks, muzzle (if needed).

Store your kit – in dry location where temperature does not get too hot or below freezing. Make sure in quick access for vehicle loading.

In the cloud and in the kit: Records, microchip information, photos, vet records, current vaccination and health records for temporary boarding.



See <u>https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-</u> Education/Campaigns/TakeAction/TakeActionHorseChecklist.ashx for a workbook.



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Action: If You Must Leave Livestock or Horses Behind Checklist



If evacuation is not possible, animal owners must decide whether to move large animals to shelter or turn them outside.

Loose animals have a better chance of finding safety. Humane society recommends a minimum field size of 1-acre.

Reminder: firefighters may cut fences or open gates to free trapped animals so providing id on each animal is important.

- Do not enter barn that is already burning. Smoke inhalation can kill you. Blindfold animals if necessary. Put halters on animals and led to safe area out of burning barn.
- Remove any nylon material (halters, leads, fly masks etc.) before you turn animals loose, so they don't melt during fire's extreme temperatures or from embers.
- Close barn doors after removing animals. Otherwise they may try to return to barn and become trapped inside.
- If caught in open, go to bare or rocky area. Don't try to outrun a fire.
- Post a sign for recue workers noting the number and types of animals left and location of extra food. Include important contact numbers.
- □ Return to check on animals as soon as emergency personnel deem it safe.





Recap - Everyone Goes!

Wildfire preparedness for pets, large animals and livestock

Key concepts

Pet preparedness (4 Ps)

Just like for people there are 4 Ps for pets:

- Prepare with go kits. Develop your own list and order of go.
- Plan for both go and stay: Develop buddy system. Talk to your vet and get contact numbers.
- Practice your plan.
- Participate with your neighbors. Stay informed

Pet evacuation

Identification is critical, in case you and your pet get separated.

There are special considerations of travel for various types of pets.

Last resort is to leave your pet at home. Use the checklist of Dos and Don'ts. After the fire use the checklist for keeping your pet safe. If you have lost or found pets use the checklist.

Large animal evacuation

Develop specific plan of actions for wildfire. Assemble disaster kits. Post diagram of property, water sources, and fire hazards. Be ready to go: identification marks on animals; trucks, trailers and people ready to go. Complete an assessment of whether to shelter or turn out if you must leave animals behind.