

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development We're working for Western Australia.

# **Horses and storms**

#### Have a storm plan

In a storm, you need somewhere safe to shelter. Your horses need somewhere safe as well. Planning ahead is the best approach to help keep your animals safe during an emergency. Make a plan for how you will prepare for and respond to a storm. Work with others in your household and consider:

- is your horse paddock or stables likely to be safe in a storm? Are there trees that could fall and destroy fences or areas that are flood prone? Are there electrical wires across paddocks? Are there loose items that could create a hazard?
- are you likely to need to evacuate your horses before a big storm hits? If so, where will they go? How will they get there?
- who else needs to know your plan? Think about family, neighbours and others who may be able to help.

#### **Be prepared**

- Create an emergency kit
- Consider evacuating your horses if a big storm is forecast
- If your property is in danger of flooding, move horses to the highest area of the property
- If strong winds are forecast, move horses to where they will have shelter
- If shelter is limited, consider appropriate rugging to protect horses from rain, hail, wind and cold
- Do not leave shelter to check animals until safe to do so.

#### Identification

All livestock, including horses, should be appropriately identified and registered.

Visit agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-movementidentification/livestock-ownership-identificationand-movement-western-australia

#### Storm warnings

Storm warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

Visit emergency.wa.gov.au



Storms can present dangers from flooding, wind, cold and lightning. Writing down a Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE) and including it in your storm management plan can help ensure you make the best possible decisions to protect your animals. Ensure all members of your household are familiar with your emergency plan.

Use the questions below as prompts to help you write down your plan. Write separate plans for different animal types as their needs will differ.

## Survival plan for your animals' welfare in an emergency

#### 1. Animals' names or types of livestock 3. Safer areas for animals

Where is the safest place on our property for animals during a storm? Which animals will shelter where?

#### 2. Preparing your property

Where will we shelter during a storm?

What do we need in our storm emergency kit?

Do we need a back-up power supply in case the power goes out?

Are there particular animals that need special care? e.g. freshly-shorn sheep, young stock, a dog that is fearful of thunder

we move them to? When? How?

Will we move any animals? If so, where will

#### 4. What's our plan for after the cyclone?

How will animals be contained if fences and shelters are destroyed?

How will we access feed?

### **Emergency contacts**

Regular vet

24hr emergency vet clinic

#### Important disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.