

# Recommendations for Livestock Owners Preparing for the Possibility of Evacuation

### Think Ahead and Be Prepared!

- Know your Legal Land Location and write it down or enter into your cell phone.
- Ensure EMERGENCY numbers and contact information for your neighbours is up to date, stored on your phone, or written down and in your vehicle.
- Have fire extinguishers, heavy work gloves and wire cutters in your vehicle.
- Keep all vehicles fueled up and water wagons/tanks full at all times.
- Livestock trailers should be easy to access and left hooked up if possible.
- Tack rooms should be stocked with extra halters, water pails and a couple of small bales of hay or other feed.
- Horses and other animals that you are planning to evacuate must be able to be caught and load into the trailer when necessary.

## **Identify an Emergency Strategy for Evacuating Cattle or a Large Number of other Livestock:**

- Identify an alternate holding location for animals that is outside of the anticipated path of the fire and can accommodate your animals for a minimum of 72 hours with adequate feed, water and shelter.
- Source additional feed and water if necessary.
- Make arrangements for the necessary resources to facilitate relocation:
  - $\circ~$  Ranch hands on horseback/OHVs/highway vehicles to push cattle to safe location.
  - Corrals and loading chute (permanent of portable) to facilitate gather and load of animals onto trailers
  - Stock trailers, trucks and drivers
  - Cattle liners

### Keep your yard CLEAN:

- Allow animals to graze tall grass around buildings and fences.
- Make that overdue trip to the landfill to remove any unnecessary articles/debris.
- Keep all feedstacks a safe distance from buildings and in the opposite direction of prevailing winds.

### **Identification of Horses:**

- Tags braided into their manes with contact information written in permanent marker.
- Contact numbers written on the hoofwall in permanent marker.
- A unique symbol can be clipped into the hair on the shoulder or hip.
- Take recent photos of all livestock if possible.

If you are unable to catch, load and evacuate animals, be prepared to open gates and/or cut fence wires in strategic spots.

In the event of an evacuation, avoid blocking access to emergency vehicles to your property. DO NOT lock gates!

If you can, before you go, turn off power and natural gas supplies.

Monitor local radio stations and social media for news of evacuations and safety protocols. Download the Alberta Emergency Alert App on your smartphone.

Build a 72 Hour Kit for yourself and your animals. Please visit <u>http://www.aema.alberta.ca/build-a-kit</u> for more information on the content of kits.