

CONNECTICUT HORSE COUNCIL FIRE PREPAREDNESS

A CHC program to affect emergency communication at the local level

HORSE 911

If a fire were to strike today, would the local emergency responders know about your barn, how many horses there are, buildings, water sources, locked gates or even and more essential, would they even know a barn with living, breathing creatures was there? Horse 911 is designed as a prevention tool to assist you in preparing your barn to be 'fire safe', an effective communication tool to provide local fire/rescue personnel with your facility specifics in case of fire or natural disaster, and an educational tool to train firefighters in the safe handling of horses during fire, roadway and other emergencies.

The program is a grass roots approach partnering with the CHC, Career Fire Chief's Association, Connecticut State Fire Fighting Academy, CTSART (Connecticut Animal Response Team), other fire related associations and the local horse community and should be an essential part of your barn safety program.

The program is comprised of three (3) distinct components. All three can be used together or independent of each other.

FIRE PREVENTION

- CHC can arrange for your local fire chief to come in and inspect your barn for potential fire hazards
- He or she will provide you with ideas and suggestions for the safe operation of your barn and identify potentially hazardous conditions
- CHC will be sponsoring fire workshops to educate the horse public to fire prevention tools, technology and standards

FIRE RESPONSE - HORSE 911 KIT

Making it easy for the local firefighters in your town to fight a fire and save your facility and horses is the core of the HORSE 911 program. The notification kit supplied by CHC for these purposes is designed to be:

- Easy for you to fill out and mail
- Easy for emergency personnel to understand

The first step is to request a HORSE 911 kit from the Connecticut Horse Council. Simply log on to www.cthorsecouncil.org and look for the HORSE 911 icon. Click on the icon, fill out the required information and a hardcopy version will be mailed to your home. We require the hardcopy forms be filled out as they are on sturdy card stock and will stand up to use at the fire stations.

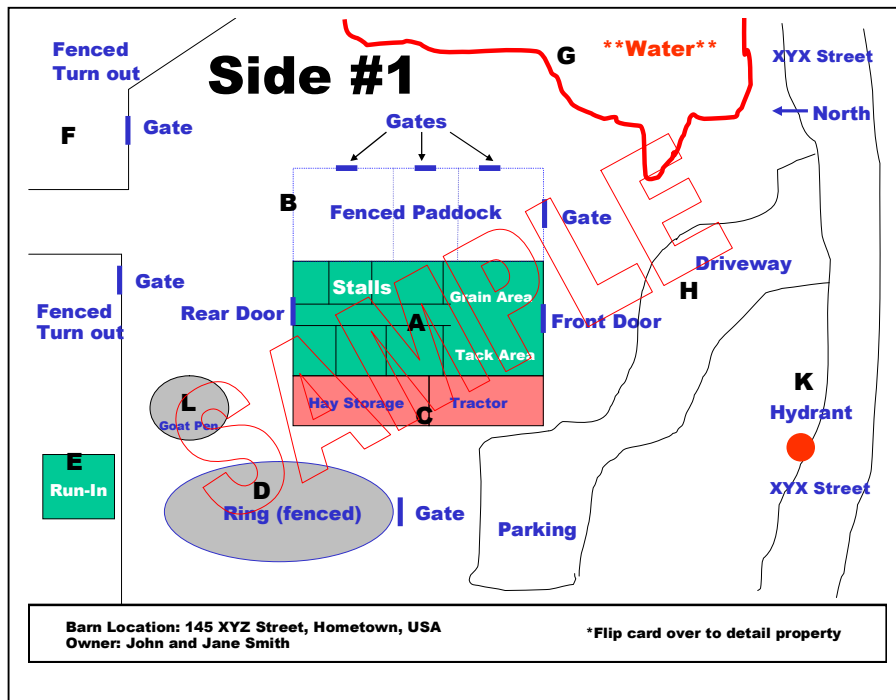
The kit will contain:

- 1 - Layout Card, Side 1 & 2
- 1 - Inventory & Emergency Contact Card, Side 1 & 2
- 1 - Set of Instructions
- 1 - Comprehensive list of Fire Departments (telephone and addresses)
- 1 - Envelope for mailing to local fire department

1 – Supplementary sheets as required

- Fill out all required information in the kit
- Make a copy for your records and store in a watertight bag or container
- Mail the kit to your nearest fire station (address will be provided with kit)
- Submit annually if significant changes have occurred

SAMPLE LAYOUT FORM SIDE 1



Fill out all required information as thoroughly as possible, make a copy for your files (we recommend you store this in a watertight container or envelope), and mail the completed kit to the fire department listed for your town. Each respective fire department will keep this information on file and should an emergency call come from your barn...they will be ready with *crucial information on your facility*.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Make your barn available to the CHC for firefighter training and/or large animal rescue training in emergency horse handling or attend one at a nearby barn
- Attend CHC/CTSART sponsored large animal rescue training sessions and fire/emergency preparedness seminars
- Attend CHC sponsored emergency preparedness workshops including emergency horse handling and containment
- Volunteer for the equine portion of CTSART (Connecticut State Animal Response Team) — in the event of a catastrophic natural disaster or emergency the CTSART (in addition to small animal) will be mobilized for equine emergency response needs.

The Connecticut Horse Council is dedicated to assisting in times of emergency. Prudent planning and preparation are essential responsibilities of every horse owner. The council can and will continue to provide information and standard guidelines to educate and promote disaster preparedness to the Connecticut horse community but ultimately, you the horse owner, will be the deciding factor in your farm's preparedness plans.

CHC is a partner with CTSART – Connecticut State Animal Response Team, under the leadership of Dr. Arnold Goldman, DVM, Executive Director and works with CTSART to aid in prevention, response and recovery of equine in need during natural disasters

Visit the Connecticut Horse Council at www.cthorsecouncil.org or contact Horse 911 Chairperson H. Caine at halide@ctequinemassage.com with questions or comments regarding this handout. The Connecticut Horse Council, "Horsemen United in Leadership, Service and Education."

