



PETS, LIVESTOCK AND BUSHFIRES



Bushfire plan – Pet owners

- Do you have a plan for your pets/ horses/ chickens etc? **In the event of a bushfire, if an evacuation order is in place, a safe area will be available to bring pets and horses to Marulan Rural Supplies on Portland Avenue, Marulan. An evacuation order may be sent to your mobile via text, broadcast on ABC radio or emergency services may doorknock.** If you are close to a fire and would like to evacuate early before an evacuation order is in place please ring Marulan Rural Supplies (Bus.H 48411340) or Cooinda Vet Hospital (all hours 48411033) for advice. Any injured animals will be assessed by Cooinda Vet Hospital staff and may be taken to Cooinda Vet Hospital for treatment if necessary. There will be room for horse floats at Marulan Rural Supplies. If you are going to evacuate animals, please leave early. Leaving at the last minute is the most dangerous option for you and your animals.
- During the bushfire season, be ready for an emergency by ensuring the following –
 - Cages for pets are clean and easily accessed
 - A small, clearly labelled supply of any important medication or diet food for your pet is kept either with the cage or at a spot that can be quickly accessed
 - A plan of how you will put all animals in the car (eg. cat and dogs together) and where you will take your animals when you evacuate
 - A plan of who you would get to evacuate your pets if you are away from home and can't get back (remember roads can be blocked meaning limited access)

Bushfire plan – Horse and livestock owners

- Is your property name and number clearly visible from both directions at the property entrance? Is there room for a fire truck to turn around?
- Are you going to evacuate your horse/s or put them in a low risk area?
- If you are going to evacuate, ensure that the float is in good working order and easily accessible to be able to put on the car quickly.
- Horses are good at moving themselves to safe open areas if able to do so. Remove rugs and halters to stop them burning the animal. Consider using rope halters for easier handling and management.
- Are all your horses/ livestock permanently identified (NLIS, ear tags or microchipped (horses)) in case of fences being destroyed and stock escaping? (Consider photographic records of valuable stock)
- Move horses and livestock to a low risk paddock (bared out or ploughed paddock, irrigated green areas or yards and paddocks protected by laneways or ploughed fire breaks). The paddock should have enough drinking water to minimise dehydration for possibly many hours. Paddocks need to be large enough for animals to move far enough away from the fire. Ensure that you move animals EARLY and do not get caught in the fire yourself.
- Monitor the “Fires near me NSW” app, the www.rfs.nsw.gov.au website, or listen to the local ABC radio for latest updates on local fires.