



Preventing Winter Emergencies

Check List & Helpful Hints

- **Must Haves** – Have first aid kit and emergency numbers (333-0333 & 769-2433) readily available – [click here for full first aid kit list](#)
- **Know Normal** – When you know what is 'normal' for your horse you can recognize a problem early. [Learn normal equine parameters](#). Practice with your horse and you will learn what is normal for him or her.
- **Call Early** – If you think you have an emergency, you probably do. If you notice any of these clinical signs – decreased appetite, lethargy, lying down longer than normal, sudden lameness, squinting or excessive tearing of the eye, fever >102 F – please call. First signs are typically personality/attitude change and/or decrease or loss of appetite.
- **Horse Check** - Carefully examine your horse(s) 1-2 times a day for bleeding, deep lacerations/punctures or foreign bodies. This includes removing your horse's blanket each and every time!
- **Hazard Check** – Evaluate your horse's environment and remove potential hazards that may be blown around, displaced, or covered by the snow to prevent accidents.
- **Maintain Hydration** – Your horse's hydration status can be checked with a skin test. To ensure or increase water intake – administration of electrolytes or table salt, use of water heaters or keeping ice broken in water troughs a minimum of two to three times a day. For more information please contact us today.
- **Feeding hay** – This helps maintain core body temperature, facilitate digestion, and aids in preventing colic.