# **Protect Livestock**

### **Receive Aid During a Crisis**

(Food, Water, Shelter, Transportation, Medicine)

### Loudoun County Animal Services wants

to help you during a crisis- Participate in the 'Protect Livestock' program by providing contact information for your household and a record of your livestock. Having this information is key for emergency responders to better plan to assist you and your animals in the event of an emergency or extreme weather.

### Establish an Emergency Plan

### Types of Emergencies:

- Natural Disasters– drought, floods, hurricanes tornados, derechos, wildfires, winter storms
- Man-made Disasters—industrial, terrorism
- Farm Events– barn or other structural fires, vehicular incidents, biosecurity

### Before the Disaster:

- Think ahead and establish an emergency plan
- Survey your property, find alternative water sources, identify evacuation routes
- Maintain updated lists to track animals, equipment, supplies, and hazardous materials like pesticides, fertilizer, fuel, or other chemicals or medications
- Conduct property inspections to identify potential dangers- failing structures, fire risks, electrical risks, flooding risks, drifting snow or ice sheet risks, and damaged or dead trees

#### Preparing:

- Keep up with current events, weather, and news. Many disasters come with a few days notice
- Ensure an accessible supply of feed and water
- Ensure that all animals have some form of identification that will help facilitate their return: tattoo, microchip, brand or tag
- Make sure your vehicles and trailers are maintained, have fuel, and insurance. Train your animals to load and travel. Socialize your animals with strangers, different clothing and conditions
- Keep health records up to date. Have lists of feeding instructions, vaccines, Coggins testing, medication instructions
- Have contact information for Animal Control, Fire & Rescue, Sheriff's Office, local feed/ hay dealer, local vet (regular and emergency), local extension office and regional VDOT office
- Learn to use a fire extinguisher and generator
- Invite local fire authorities to perform inspections, or VDOT to inspect potentially impassable roadways
- Network and develop a buddy system with neighbors and out-of- town friends

### When a Disaster Strikes:

Remain calm. Ensure your own safety first. Follow your plan. Listen for local emergency alert information. If your livestock become lost, be prepared to identify them and document ownership. If you find displaced animals, use caution when handling them and notify authorities.





# Safely Recover Escaped Livestock



## To enroll, please e-mail: protectlivestock@loudoun.gov



In partnership with Loudoun County Animal Services



Sheriff Michael L . CHAPMAN Loudoun County Sheriff's Office http://sheriff.loudoun.gov

### What is "Operation Protect Livestock"?

When Loudoun County Sheriff's Office deputies and Department of Animal Services officers are dispatched to a call indicating that livestock have broken free of their secure pasture, the officers require a procedure in order to accomplish the agencies' goal to safely secure the animals and notify the owner.

**"Operation Protect Livestock"** is a service provided to the citizens of Loudoun County through a voluntary, cooperative program that has been established between the Sheriff's Office and Animal Services. The goal of this program is to notify livestock owners as quickly as possible when any of their animals have escaped the confines of their fenced-in habitat and wandered onto the roadway or another property.



# How does "Operation Protect Livestock" work?

Loudoun County livestock owners are encouraged to voluntarily provide information that will be shared with the Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center and Animal Services dispatchers so livestock owners can be reached should an incident occur. If livestock are discovered wandering in the roadway or on another property, the dispatchers will search the database in an attempt to identify the owner of the involved livestock so the animals can be safely recovered and pastured. Enrollment in this program is via e-mail. This message will only alert the project managers in the Sheriff's Office and Animal Services.

To safeguard your privacy, the LCSO deputy assigned as project manager will ensure only the information you provide is entered into the contact database that will be available to the dispatchers should an incident occur near your address. The both departments will protect all of the furnished information to the extent that it can be protected from release under the limitations of the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§2.2-3700).

#### TO VOLUNTARILY ENROLL IN THIS PROGRAM, USE THE E-MAIL ADDRESS BELOW:

### protectlivestock@loudoun.gov

Please include the following information:

- Livestock owner's name
- Livestock owner's street address
- Livestock owner's home/cell phone
- An emergency contact person with a home/cell phone number that should be notified if the livestock owner is out of the area
- Livestock housing location
- Information as to the kind and number of the livestock



### How does this program help you?

The Sheriff's Office and/or Animal Services will be able to quickly make you aware of the incident, which will enable you to recover your animal, reducing your loss or liability.

