



North Carolina Farm Emergency Plan Template



**NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
North Carolina Agromedicine Institute**

*Please keep an updated version of this completed plan at all locations associated with any farm activities. *
Please visit <https://www.ncagr.gov/oepp/Prepare#farmPlanning> for the digital version of this template.

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FARM EMERGENCY PLAN

I. Important Contacts

***Always call 911 first in the case of an emergency**

When responding to a trauma at any site, do not hesitate to request air transport immediately. Major trauma events are time sensitive and immediate response is essential.

NCDA&CS Emergency Hotline: 1-866-645-9403

Contact Names	Contact Numbers
Local Fire Department	
Local Police Department/Law Enforcement	
County Sheriff Department	
NC Call Before You Dig	811
Local Animal Control/Animal Services	
NC Highway Patrol	
Local County Emergency Management Coordinator	
Local Rescue/Ambulance Service	
Local Hospital/Emergency Department	
Family Health Care Provider	
Agricultural Chemical Dealer	
LP/Gas Provider	
Phone Services Provider	
Electric Provider	
Primary Equipment Dealer/Mechanic	
FBI Field Office Emergency Number	
Insurance Provider (Company and Agent)	
County NC Cooperative Extension Agent/Agents	
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS)	919-707-3000
NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control and Pesticide Division	919-733-3556
NCDA&CS Emergency Programs Division	919-707-3300
NCDA&CS Veterinary Division	919-707-3250
National Response Center	1-800-424-8802
NCDEQ: Division of Water Resources (DWR)	1-800-858-0368
NC Poison Control	1-800-222-1222
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)/POC	
Grain Rescue – NC Agromedicine Institute (LaMar Grafft)	252-744-1008 (office, M-F, 6am – 3pm) 319-270-4403 (cell, all other times)

Links to assistance with disaster plans for agribusiness with NCDA&CS:

<https://www.ncagr.gov/oep/Prepare>

<https://www.ncagr.gov/oep/DisasterInformation>

II. Preparedness Recommendations for all Farms/Farmers

- Keep an updated version of your Farm Emergency Plan at all farm locations that includes pertinent information for each site (in a notebook or waterproof container along with all items needed for the emergency kit) and ensure that all personnel know its location).
- Make the site's farm safety plan, including a fire response preplan, available to and in the appropriate format and language for all employees. Develop a system to ensure that all employees review and understand the plan. Contact the NC Farmworker Health Program <https://ncfhp.ncdhhs.gov/>, 919.527.6440 to determine if there is a farmworker health outreach program in your area that can assist with training and emergency communications in employees' language(s).
- Remember that a different plan may be required at each site due to differences in geographic location, jurisdictional response, animals or crops on the premises, etc.
- Have a readiness kit, including food, available at all farm sites, in farm vehicles, and with each individual who may be going to the farm around the time of a disaster (you may find examples of readiness kits at: www.readync.org)

See Appendix A (Pages 14-18) for NC Cooperative Extension Disaster Planning Checklist

III. Directions to Farm from nearest major road or highway

INCLUDE LANDMARKS &/or OTHERMARKERS VISIBLE BY AIR IN CASE OF RESPONSE BY AIR

IV. Facility Information

Primary Contact Information	
Name	
Address	
Phone Day	
Phone Night	
Fax	
Cell	
Email	
Alternate	
Owner Information if Different from Primary Contact	
Name	
Address	
Phone Day	
Phone Night	
Fax	
Cell	
Email	
Alternate	

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Site Information	
Date Completed	
Farm Name	
Farm Physical Address	
Township/Sector/Quadrant	
Farm GPS Coordinates	
Latitude	
Longitude	
Chemical Storage Information (If Different)	
Address	
Township/Sector/Quadrant	
Latitude	
Longitude	

Ensure record information for restricted use chemicals is kept as required by NCDA&CS Structural Pesticide Control and Pesticide Division and the Local Fire Department.

Ideal Emergency Landing Zone Information for Air Transport

- Landing Zone should be a minimum of 100 feet x 100 feet
- Level land with slope less than 5 degrees
- Compact dirt- grass-road
- Free of obstructions
- No debris that can become airborne
- Mark corners of landing zone
- Do not approach the aircraft except on instruction from flight crew
- Avoid tail rotor area
- No one in landing zone during take off
- No smoking or open flame
- Make a large cross or “x” or SOS with contrasting vegetation so that it clearly stands out (if possible).

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Map or Sketch Suggested: Map the farm site or any part of the farm where chemicals are stored to include labels and symbols. Maps may be obtained through the local Farm Service Agency, which will enable responders to see where fields are located, if needed in an emergency. Reviewing farm maps with local first responders and locating maps in a clearly labeled, accessible container is advised (**Attach map to this plan**). A good container can be a PVC tube with caps secured to a fence post or sign on entry to the farm.

- Buildings/structures location- Indicate sizes and locations of doors.
- Barns, houses, shops, outbuildings, silos, in-ground silage pits, grain bins, manure pits, lagoons, litter storage, dead animal boxes, etc.
- Special land features
- Roads and crossroads, driveways and lanes, fences and gates.
- Wells and/or municipal water supply, hydrants, ponds, streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands.
- Septic tanks and wastewater systems
- Drainage ditches, culverts, surface drains. Slope of land-direction of drainage
- Identify where chemicals, fertilizers and the emergency spill kit are stored.
- Note fire concerns
- Location of first aid kits and fire extinguishers
- Overhead and buried power lines
- Location of key box for locks to buildings, gates, etc.
- List of silos and grain bins with size and capacity by their individual numbers

Suggested symbols to show location for each building –be sure to include a legend on maps.

- (G) - Gas shutoff
- (E) - Electrical shutoff
- (AST) - Above ground fuel storage tank
- (UST) - Underground fuel storage tank
- (LP) - Liquid propane
- (CG) - Compressed gas (oxygen, acetylene)
- (AA) - Animal areas
- (MS) - Manure storages (liquids and solids)
- (S) -Silos
- (OsEPL) - Off-site emergency plan location
- (+) First Aid Kit
- (FEXT) – Fire Extinguisher
- (ESK) – Emergency Spill Kit
- (GB 1) - Grain Bin and Assigned Number

V. Agricultural Chemical and Application Equipment Security

Vigilance and observation of suspicious activity are keys to managing security on your farm. Situations that should be reported quickly include the following:

- Unusual sickness among staff or unusual numbers of sick or dead animals, birds or insects in your immediate vicinity.
- Signs of break-ins, theft, tampering or indications of possible attempt to harm or damage a vital or sensitive facility.
- Suspicious activity, vehicles, people, theft, sabotage and vandalism should be reported to your local law enforcement agency, these agencies should be notified immediately. Include SDS sheets for any chemical used at the site that may be involved.

The following practices will help reduce the likelihood of adverse events from occurring:

- Keep chemical storage areas secure and locked or otherwise secured to prevent unauthorized access.
- Mark chemical storage area with chemical hazard placard. This will help emergency responders identify the type of storage. If you need assistance with how to placard, contact your local fire or emergency services personnel for assistance.
- Keep an updated and accurate inventory of all chemicals in your possession. Inventory should be maintained in more than one location in case of fire, tornado, or other unforeseen event. Labels or Safety Data Sheets can be obtained from chemical vendor or downloaded from www.cdms.net
- Unexpected spraying activities, whether via aircraft, trucks or individuals with handheld sprayers, in areas where such activity would not be customary or appropriate, or evidence that such unexplained activity recently occurred. The goal should be to make it as difficult as possible for potential troublemakers to obtain chemicals or application equipment. Advise your family and employees of the following recommendations and implement those that apply to your operation.
- Labels can be removed from an empty container if you have multiple containers of the same chemical that you will be using. Printed page size labels can be kept in a notebook labeled 'CHEMICAL INVENTORY'. Labels from containers can be placed in individual zip lock bags and put into a file. In the event of a fire, responders will want to know what chemicals are on the farm in order to know what HAZMAT steps are necessary. In the event of an exposure, EMS and physician will need a copy of label to know how to treat properly. Be sure that family members and others working on the farm know where the inventory is kept. Empty containers without labels should be triple rinsed immediately to prevent unknown contamination.
- Walk the perimeter of your chemical and equipment storage area on a regular basis, checking for any signs of suspicious activity.
- Lock or secure all application equipment when it is not in use to prevent unauthorized access.
- Consider background checks for new employees.
- Restrict access of non-employees (delivery, maintenance, etc.) to your facilities and limit access to all chemical storage areas to reduce/prevent the potential for tampering with products.

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- Have a list of emergency numbers (see page 2) prominently posted and be sure that family members and employees have access to this information and are aware of the contact list.

All agricultural incidents should be promptly reported (within 15 minutes) to three levels of government:

1. Local authorities by calling 911.

2. State authorities.

- NCDEQ Division of Water Resources (DWR) <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources>. Call the Region closest to the environmental emergency. After-hours number is **1-800-858-0368**, in case of release and to find out the reporting requirements.
- NC Superfund Authorization and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III Program, Tier II reports – NC Emergency Management, **919-825-2277**.
- If pesticides are involved, notify the Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division at **919-733-3556**.

3. Federal authorities.

- The National Response Center **1-800-424-8802**.

VI. Spill or Release Response Procedures

Spill or release response procedures refer to accidental spills or releases of all chemicals used on the farm, including pesticides, fertilizers, manure and petroleum products such as fuel oil and gasoline.

- a. Caution! Always assess the dangers of spill or release response first. If you cannot control and/or contain the spill without endangering your health or safety, then immediately call 911. If 911 services are not available in your area, call the fire department or state police directly. You should have these numbers posted by all phones. Use the form on page 2 to record emergency phone numbers. If pesticides are involved, notify the Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division at **919-733-3556**.
- b. Control the source of the spill or release, if possible. For example, shut off valves or pump, plug holes, set container upright, or contain by damming or diking. If there is a fire, be aware that spraying water on some chemicals can cause a chemical reaction that can make the situation worse. For small fires involving chemicals, use a fire extinguisher rated for all types of fires. For any fire that you cannot easily control, call 911 or the fire department. Make sure you indicate what chemicals are involved.

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- c. Contain the spill to a small area, away from groundwater or surface water. The spill could reach groundwater or surface water if it soaks into the soil or if it gets into a drainage ditch, wetland or open water such as a pond or stream. Spills that reach the water can contaminate wells, kill fish and wildlife and be very costly to clean up.
- d. Communicate details to local, state and federal authorities.
- e. Cleanup and follow-up requirements. All releases must be cleaned up. With some releases, the chemical can be easily cleaned up and disposed of using commonly available farm resources (loader, shovel, manure spreader and suitable field area for distribution of contaminated soil). In other cases, a professional remediation company may be required to safeguard the community and the environment. The N.C. Pesticide Disposal Assistance Program can provide assistance by facilitating disposal and a list of contractors. Call 919-733-3556
- f. NCDEQ DWR spill response staff members will help you determine the appropriate cleanup actions and what follow-up reporting requirements are required for the specific release.

VII. Recommendation for Agrichemical Spill Kits

Spill kits should be kept near the sprayer and in the chemical mixing and loading area, storage area or in the transport vehicle.

Suggested Spill Kit Contents

- Keep SDS or product label nearby for easy access
- Personal protective equipment (chemical-resistant gloves, boots, protective suit, safety glasses).
- Drum/bucket/trashcan to contain collected/generated disposal material
- Absorbent materials, such as absorbent clay, sawdust, pet litter, activated charcoal, vermiculite, paper or spill pillows to soak up liquid spills.
- Sweeping compound to keep dry spills from drifting during cleanup.
- Shovel, broom and dustpan.
- Heavy-duty detergent.
- Fire extinguisher rated for all types of fires.
- Other spill cleanup items specified on the labels of products used regularly.
- Closable, sturdy plastic container (labeled "Spill Kit").
- Emergency telephone numbers (page 2).

EPA requires farms to prepare oil spill plans for fuel tanks depending on the amount of fuel stored on site.

For more information: http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/spcc_ag.htm

VIII. Anhydrous Ammonia

Keep anhydrous ammonia secure by taking the following precautions:

- Use tank or valve locks.
- Be alert for suspicious persons and activities around the farmstead. Report any incidents to the local police.
- Look for signs of suspicious activities, including:
 - Partially opened tank valves and/or leaking valves.
 - Common items associated with and often left behind after theft, including small propane tanks, buckets, coolers, gas cans, duct tape, garden hoses and bicycle inner tubes.
- Don't leave tanks unattended for long periods of time. Return tanks to the dealer immediately after use.
- When storing tanks, position tanks in well-lit open areas where they can be easily seen from the road.
- Consider the use of dyed anhydrous ammonia to make the fertilizer less attractive to drug makers.

If you use and/or store anhydrous ammonia, here is information you may want to keep:

Anhydrous Ammonia Purchase			
Date of Sale			
Quantity Purchased			
Purchaser's Information*			
Name			
Address			
Phone Number			
Driver's License Number			

***Recommended to be kept for all fertilizers, though not required.**

If you use and/or store ammonium nitrate fertilizer:

- Keep the storage areas secure and locked where fire codes permit.
- Keep an updated and accurate inventory of all ammonium nitrate in your possession.
- Walk the perimeter of your storage area on a regular basis, checking for signs of suspicious activity.
- Report suspicious activity, vehicles, people, theft, sabotage and vandalism to your local law enforcement agency.
- Lock and/or secure all application equipment when it is not in use.
- Consider background checks for new employees.
- Restrict access of non-employees (delivery, maintenance, etc.) to your facilities.
- Have a list of emergency numbers (see page 2) prominently posted and be sure that family members and employees are aware of it.
- Document relationship between purchaser and person picking up or accepting delivery of the ammonium nitrate fertilizer, if applicable.
- Assure all tanks are properly labeled.

IX. Farm Bio-security

Bio-security for Livestock, Poultry and Crop Operations

Bio-security involves practices designed to prevent harmful agents, such as viruses, bacteria, parasites or toxins, from coming in contact with livestock, poultry and crops. Protocols should be part of every farm's management plan and should include prevention guides for farm visitors. Many diseases commonly found in the United States can be spread from farm to farm and result in animal sickness, death, crop damage and economic losses.

Visitors may include neighbors and friends making casual visits or veterinarians, feed salespeople, equipment dealers or utility service personnel making professional visits. They may unknowingly bring harmful agents onto an operation as the risk is increased with visitors who regularly go from farm to farm as part of their profession.

The following precautions can aid in preventing disease introduction:

- Producers and veterinarians should become as familiar as possible with diseases by utilizing the training module on the department web site <http://ncagr.gov/vet/DiseaseAlerts.htm>
- Producers should observe their animals closely for symptoms and immediately contact their veterinarian if clinical signs are seen.
- Crops should be monitored closely for unusual disease symptoms and discussed with appropriate experts to assure limited spread of an unknown or unfamiliar pathogen/agent.
- New herd additions should be minimized or suspended. If new animals must be added, they should be limited to those of known background and isolated and observed for illness for a minimum of 2 weeks prior to introduction.
- Limit traffic and personal access of persons not directly affiliated with farm operations to areas designated for visitors to increase bio-security and areas of operations that are off limits to visitors.
- Essential personnel should clean and disinfect clothing and footwear before entry into areas containing animals and crop operations or don impervious disposable foot covers.
- Be knowledgeable of the international travel status of farm employees. Educate them on the need to limit access of farm premises for at least 14 days after returning from abroad. All clothing and personal items should be washed and disinfected upon re-entry. Discuss risk of employees receiving any gifts or food products from relatives residing overseas.
- Refrain from feeding farm animals any garbage or waste food products of any type.
- Restrict the purchase of feed, forage, hay, or bedding materials to those from known domestic or local origin.
- If used equipment must be purchased, limit it to that of known local origin and thoroughly sanitize it prior to bringing on to the farm.
- Restrict the entry of any non-farm employee. If entry is approved, these individuals should clean and disinfect shoes and clothing prior to allowing entry of personnel to the animal holding areas of the premise.

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- Discontinue the practice of allowing free-ranging dogs or pets on the farm premise. Limit wildlife entry to the farm as much as possible to prevent introduction or spread of contaminants to farm commodities

The following guidelines can be used when hosting farm visitors:

- Inform visitors of bio-security measures followed on the farm.
- No farm visit should be allowed without careful consideration for bio-security risks.
- Park visitor vehicle(s) away from livestock production areas to reduce contamination risks.
- Visitors should have or be provided with clean clothing and footwear if visiting animal production areas.
- Visitor contact with animals, livestock waste, feedstocks, production, and processing areas should be minimized whenever possible.
- If possible, keep a visitor log for high risk areas on the farm that require visitor access.
- Provide access to hand washing facilities upon visitor arrival and departure.
- Keep track of how many visitors are on the farm at any given time to assist in supervising movements and accounting for all individuals in case of an emergency.

X. Ag-terrorism Preparedness Tips

- Educate your employees and let them know the risks to your farm business
- Be alert for people exhibiting odd or suspicious behavior; report to local law enforcement
- Conduct an assessment of potential threats to your farm
- Develop and implement a bio-security plan for your farm. Train all employees and require strict adherence to farm policy.
- Assure employees and visitors to your farm understand restriction of access to livestock, especially if they have been out of the country
- Keep yourself informed on current issues related to threats of terrorism that might affect the food supply.
- Work with neighbors to form a farm community watch program for reporting unusual or suspicious activities.
- Perimeter Security and gates, signs and locks add further security to the farm property.

XI. Emerging and Reportable Diseases

- Educate your employees about the potential impacts of emerging and reportable diseases
- A list of reportable diseases can be found here: <https://www.ncagr.gov/vet/vetdis.htm>
- Emerging diseases of concern will be monitored on a state level and updates concerning any recommendations, restrictions, or potential outbreaks nationwide will be posted here: <https://www.ncagr.gov/vet/DiseaseAlerts.htm>
- Recommendations made by the Center of Disease Control (CDC) about emerging, reportable and zoonotic disease outbreaks can be found at: Center of Disease Control (CDC) (more on zoonotic disease in the next section).

XII. Zoonotic Disease Potential and Risk

Educate your employees about the potential risk of common zoonotic diseases that could be passed from personnel in contact with animals to the animals and vice versa

- Basic information about zoonotic disease may also be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/onehealth/basics/zoonotic-diseases.html>
- A list of zoonotic diseases that can be shared with a wide variety of species is found on the CDC website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/diseases/index.html>

XIII. Other Health Concerns

- If you are experiencing excessive stress that is affecting your work, your relationships, and your ability to function take measures to protect yourself immediately.
- Educate your employees about recognizing mental health issues with themselves and each other. To request free training, contact the NC Agromedicine Institute at 252.744.1008 or agromedicine@ecu.edu.
- Keep resources posted for all employees to see, such as:
 - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 988
 - National Suicide Text Hotline: www.crisistextline.org
 - Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network – North Carolina, www.ncfarmstress.org
 - NC Farm Help Line 844.325.3276
 - NC Farm Stress Resource Directory, <https://www.ncagromedicine.org/pdf/2022%20Farmer%20Stress%20Resource%20Directory%20NOVEMBER%202022%20web.pdf>
 - NC Department of Health & Human Services <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/mental-health-substance-abuse/crisis-services>

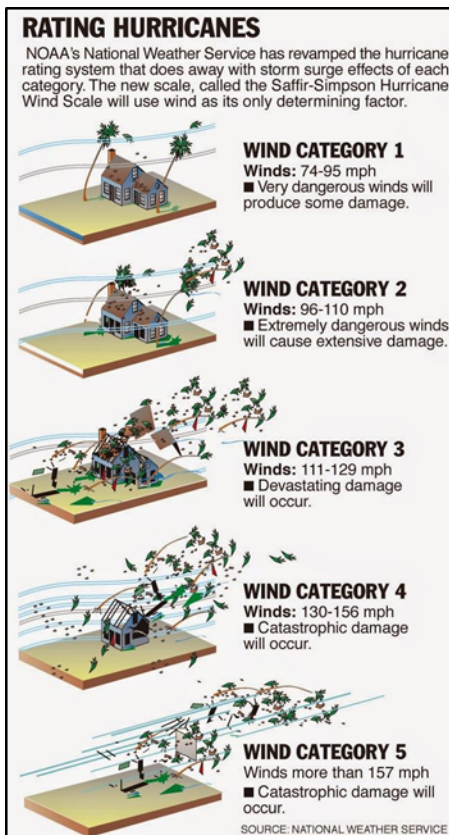
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- Suicide Prevention Resource Center/North Carolina <https://www.sprc.org/states/north-carolina>
- Farmer Resource Guide (includes information for veterans) <http://www.ncagromedicine.org/pdf/Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Appendix A: North Carolina Cooperative Extension Natural Disaster Planning Checklist

Emergency Action Planning

Be Ready. Make an Emergency Action Plan, then practice it with your family. Write down evacuation routes, contact information, Checking-In Procedures, and other important information you may need in case of an emergency. State emergency officials urge individuals and families to update their plans and kits now and stay tuned to local weather throughout the summer.



Hurricane Readiness

It is important to understand Hurricane classifications and terminology. Hurricane force winds can easily destroy poorly constructed buildings and mobile homes. Debris such as signs, roofing material, and items left outside become flying missiles in high wind. Falling trees cause extensive damage to power lines, towers and underground water lines. This can cause extended disruptions of utility services. Damaging hurricane force winds can be just as devastating as tornadoes. Things to do before a hurricane include assessing landscaping for possible threats of falling trees, trim dead limbs, and secure all loose objects including lawn furniture, grills, and potted plants. Have an evacuation plan ready in case needed and predetermine a safe room on the interior of your home with no windows. These could include a hallway, closet, or a bathroom. Secure an insurance check-up. Call your insurance company or agent and ask for an insurance check-up to make sure you have enough homeowners insurance to repair or even replace your home. Don't forget coverage for your car or boat. Remember, standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding. Whether you're a homeowner or renter, you'll need a separate policy for it, and it's available through your company, agent or the National Flood Insurance Program at www.floodsmart.gov. Act now as flood insurance requires a 30-day waiting period. Finally, know where your insurance documents and contact information are located, and be sure to take them with you if you must evacuate.

<http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-gJ0Pp1p95G4/U8l--289GII/AAAAAAAAEDo/ykLW5NirGG0/s1600/hurricane-ratings.jpg>

Storm Surge and Evacuation Planning

Storm surge is one of the greatest potentials for loss of life related to hurricanes. Storm surge occurs when water is pushed toward the shore by the force of the storm's winds. Hurricane storm tide is when the normal tide and the storm surge combine and creates higher water levels impacting roads, homes, and critical infrastructure. Storm surge can travel several miles inland and several hundred miles of coastline. Storm surge can affect sounds, rivers, creeks and other tributaries.

Disasters happen anytime and anywhere. Is your family prepared to cope with an emergency until help arrives? You need to prepare now, before a disaster strikes. Put together a disaster supplies kit. Use the following checklist as a guide to see what supplies you will need. To be ready for a disaster, you will need to stock the basics: water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, emergency supplies and tools, and special items. You will need these items if your family is confined at home.

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Family Emergency Supply Kit

- Farm Emergency Plan (Use link above)
- Water- 1 Gallon per day/person. *
- Non-Perishable food items **
- Cash
- Bedding
- Clothes
- Generator & fuel
- Charcoal and/or wood (cooking)
- Solar-powered flashlight/lanterns
- Insurance, ID & other important documents in a sealed, watertight, plastic bag.
- Bleach for purifying additional water if supplies run out.
- Coffee filters (used to remove sediment before purifying water)
- Medicine dropper or 1/8 tsp AND 1/4 tsp measuring spoons
- Pliers
- Battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- Tape
- Cell phone (fully charged)
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Compass
- Cameras to document damage
- Aluminum foil
- Paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils
- Plastic storage containers
- Signal flare
- Non-electric can opener
- Plastic trash bags
- Utility knife
- Needle, thread
- Fire extinguisher, ABC-type
- Wrench to turn off household gas and water
- Tube tent
- Whistle
- Plastic sheeting / tarpaulin
- Paper and pencil
- Infant Needs
 - Formula/Baby Food

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- Diapers
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Medications

Hygiene Products

- Toilet paper
- Towelettes
- Soap, liquid detergent
- Feminine supplies
- Personal hygiene items

First-Aid Kit and Other Medical Needs

- Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes
- Tongue depressors for small splints
- Gauze pads (2-inch and 4-inch)
- Roller bandages (3-5 rolls)
- Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant
- Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- Assorted sizes of safety pins
- Scissors
- Cleaning agent or soap
- Tweezers
- Latex gloves
- Needle
- Sunscreen
- Moist towelettes
- Antiseptic (alcohol and antibiotic ointment)
- Thermometer
- Non-prescription drugs
 - Aspirin or other pain reliever
 - Anti-diarrhea medication
 - Antacid (for stomach upset)
 - Syrup of Ipecac (used to induce vomiting if advised by Poison Control Center)
- Prescription medicines
- Diabetic Supplies
- Denture needs
- Contact lenses and supplies
- Extra eyeglasses
- Incontinence products

Special Notes:

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* **Water**-Water is essential and should be planned for one gallon per person per day. If the main water line was turned off before the emergency, the water in pipes will be safe to use. Water in the hot water heater and toilet tank (not the bowl) also should be safe. When purifying water, use 16 drops from a medicine dropper or 1/4 teaspoon of chlorine bleach for each gallon of water. If the water is not clear even after filtering, double the amount of purifying agent. If a slight bleach odor does not remain after 30 minutes, do not use the water.

****Food**-Keep a two-week supply of nonperishable food at home in case of a disaster. Since gas or electricity could be off during an emergency, select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking, and little or no water. Rotate the food with newly purchased food supplies to ensure freshness. You may need some fuel source, if you want to heat food. Buy the size container that can be used in one meal. Make sure you purchase foods that you and your family like, as well as foods that have a long shelf-life. Because they contain liquids, canned fruit, vegetables, and fruit juices are excellent choices. Consider the following for your disaster supply kit:

- Ready-to-eat canned fruits and vegetables
- Canned juices, milk, soup (if powdered or concentrated store extra water), cheese spreads
- Staples (sugar, salt, and pepper)
- High-energy foods (peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars, trail mix, dried fruit and nuts)
- Vitamins
- Foods for infants, elderly persons, or those on special diets
- Comfort foods, such as cookies, hard candy, sweetened cereals, lollipops, instant coffee, and tea bags
- Canned meats such as tuna and Vienna sausage

Farm Readiness Check-List

- Train all workers on Emergency Action Plans
 - Post evacuation procedures and escape routes
 - Post procedures for Checking-In post Emergency Event
 - Identify special tasks such as rescue and medical duties for those employees who are to perform them
 - Identify First-Aid/other supply storage locations
- Trim/remove trees to prevent damage
- Move loose items inside, such as potted plants, equipment and tools
- Secure all doors
- Move vehicles/other large equipment inside barn, garage, or another secure location

Emergency Supplies for Livestock and Pets

- Food (including forage)
- Water
- Bedding
- Muzzle
- Halters/Leads/Leashes
- Medications & Vaccination Records
- Identification Tags/Bands
- Close stall and barn doors and open all interior fencing on your pasture, then turn the animals loose. Though flying debris may injure animals, many of these injuries are treatable. An ideal pasture will have a low area such as a pond, for animals to take shelter during the storm, and high ground that's less likely to flood.
- Have a two-week supply of food and medication in your house, in waterproof containers, for animals.
- Put halters on all animals before turning them out into the pasture and put metal identification tags on the halters.

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- ❑ Fill all troughs and other possible containers outside, such as canoes or small boats, with water. This will help keep them from blowing away and provide a possible source of water after the storm.
- ❑ Keep a list of the species, number and locations of your animals near your evacuation supplies and note animals' favorite hiding spots. This will save precious rescue time.

Evacuating Animals

Equine and livestock evacuation can be challenging. Develop an evacuation plan in advance and make sure animals are familiar with being loaded onto a trailer. Locate and prearrange an evacuation site for your animals outside your immediate area. Possible sites include:

- veterinary or land grant colleges
- racetracks
- show grounds
- pastures
- stables
- fairgrounds
- equestrian centers
- livestock corrals
- stockyards or auction facilities
- other boarding facilities

If you do not have enough trailers to quickly transport all of your animals to an evacuation site, contact neighbors, local haulers, farmers, producers or other transportation providers to establish a network of available and reliable resources that can provide transportation in the event of a disaster.

Be sure to **include birds in your disaster plans**. Plastic poultry transport crates/coops work well for transporting chickens if evacuation is necessary. Vehicle interiors should be warmed in winter or cooled in summer before transporting birds. Transfer birds to more suitable housing as soon as possible to facilitate feeding and watering. Line crates or cages with shavings or other absorbent material for ease of cleaning. At the evacuation site, house birds away from noisy areas and other flocks, and protect them from the weather and predators.

Farm Map/Diagram