



Equine Emergency Plan: *Wilma 2005*

How do you get rescue/ veterinary assistance?

The chain of command to get assistance is the following:

1. Contact your county *ESF17* officer (Emergency Support Function 17 – animal coordinator)
2. He/she will contact the *EOC* (Emergency Operation Commander) director for the county
3. He/she will contact the state veterinarian
4. State vet (Dr. Holt) or assistant vet (Dr. Christy) can contact the appropriate group:
 - a. **VETS**: Veterinary Emergency Treatment Service operated by the College of Veterinary Medicine (veterinary triage) is composed of 8 people.
 - b. **VMAT**: Veterinary Medical Assistance Team (rescue and veterinary triage) This federally funded group can only be activated by Dr.Holt. This is a team of 22 people used for large scale rescue efforts.
 - c. **DART**: Disaster Animal Response Team (rescue only)

You should be proactive in requesting help. The *ESF17* coordinators are often the local county animal control officer. It is possible that they have very little training to deal with equine emergencies.

Phone numbers:

- State Veterinarian (Dr. Holt) 850-921-0326 and 850-410-0909
- VETS: John Haven is the State Agricultural Response Team (SART) liaison with the College of Veterinary Medicine : 352-258-6692 and Dr. Michael Porter (Equine) 352-258-3571 portermi@mail.vetmed.ufl.edu
- VMAT: Dr. Jim Hamilton (Equine) 910-692-8640 Jhamilton7@NC.RR.com
- Equine Veterinary Extension UF: Dr. Dana Zimmel 352-339-1362 cell, 352-392-4700 ext 5666, Satellite phone (when cell phones are not working) 254-204-6944 zimmeld@mail.vetmed.ufl.edu
- Local County *EOC* Directors and *ESF17* Coordinators: <http://www.flkart.org> Look under "My County." I have also attached a word document that has all the county information.

Helpful Websites:

http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/ai/adc/adc_emerg_manag_links.shtml (For Equine Sheltering)
www.floridadisaster.org or www.fema.gov