First Responder Guidelines for Equine Emergencies : Level 1

**Target Audience:**

Firefighters, law enforcement, animal services, search and rescue, veterinarians, citizen emergency response teams, paramedics and emergency planners.

**Training Objectives:**

Describe the types of equine emergency situations which the first responder may encounter and explain the key components to a safe, effective and coordinated response to the incident. Describe applied ICS/NIMS/SEMS/Unified Command principles in multi-agency emergency responses associated with horses such as entrapment, confined space, loose horses, and fire or flood evacuation. The participant is taught 1) the typical behavior response of horses in emergency scenarios to improve first responder and public safety 2) methods of approach to loose horses in public places, including methods for primary containment 3) evacuation associated movement of horses, individually by directly haltering and leading, or indirect movement principles for a herd of horses 4) use of vertical lifting methods for trapped horses and familiarization of specific equipment appropriate for safe and effective extraction. And finally, the participant will be introduced to animal law statues which may apply in owner absent scenarios where catastrophic injuries require humane field euthanasia.

**Prerequisites:**

ICS 100, 200 and 700

**Curriculum Description:**

One day, 8 hours with 4 hours of classroom and 4 hours of field exercises.

Field Exercises consist of: How to safely manage the down horse, vertical lift systems and live horse interactions.