



SANTA BARBARA EQUINE ASSISTANCE AND EVACUATION TEAM, INC. Services and Disaster Event History

The Santa Barbara Equine Assistance and Evacuation Team, Inc. (Equine Evac) is a volunteer group whose members are registered by the Office of Emergency Services as Disaster Service Workers. We are also a registered Non-Profit organization with a 501c3 designation. The Equine Evac Team has equipment and personnel available for large animal evacuation, billeting and rescue. Members of the Team have also completed the Incident Command System (ICS) course and have received the Standardized Emergency Management System certificate.

We conduct periodic training sessions on the transporting and housing of animals during emergencies. All requests for emergency assistance are channeled through the Sheriff's Dispatch (911), who notify County Animal Services and then determine the extent of Team activation. On the scene, the Equine Evac Team Agency Representative reports to and operates under the direction of the Liaison Officer or the Incident Command and our Animal Services Representative. All animals are sheltered free of charge and there are no paid staff.

Equine Evac sponsors clinics and provides in-service training for interested community groups and its volunteers on such topics as barn safety, trailering, and animal safety and evacuation.

Over the last 30 years we have been extremely appreciative of the Earl Warren Showgrounds administration and staff in supporting the many evacuations that have occurred. These events have required the housing of animals for not just our county but in many mutual aid situations which have required the availability of stalls for evacuated animals. To date we have sheltered over 4300 animals. We have also had numerous trainings and fundraisers at the showgrounds that would never have happened without the generosity of the showgrounds. There have been at least 3 separate training or fundraising events at the showgrounds each year since 1990 totaling over 60 events.

We acknowledge that throughout the state all showgrounds have been integral partners with all emergency agencies and are critical to the safety of all animals that are at risk during any type of emergency. The support from the statewide fairgrounds is absolutely necessary during this time of increasing disasters that affect both humans and animals. The following list is limited to the major events to which we have responded with support of animals and their humans. Of course, the largest event was the Thomas Fire where we housed over 1300 animals. Although this was the largest evacuation for which we have responded, many of the other events required 200 to over 400 stalls in order to take care of the animals in need.

Disaster Event History:

Year	Event Name	Event Dates Activated	Number of Animals
2019	Cave Fire	Nov 25 – 27	170
2019	Maria Fire	Nov 1 – 4	19
2019	Easy Fire	(same as Maria Fire)	(mutual aid)
2019	Rain evacuation	Jan 15, Jan 31, Feb 3	83
2018	Rain evacuation	Feb 28 – Mar 3	120
2018	Rain evacuation	Mar 13 – 15	57
2018	Rain evacuation	Mar 19 – 24	167
2018	Hill Fire	Nov 9 - 18	51
2018	Woolsey Fire	(same as Hill fire)	(mutual aid)
2018	Holiday Fire	July 6	168
2018	Montecito Debris Flow	Jan 8 – 28	205
2017	Thomas Fire	Dec 4 – 23	1300
2017	Whittier Fire	July 8 -17	21
2016	Sherpa Fire	Jun 5 – 19	200
2015	Gibraltar Fire	Oct 29	56
2009	Tea Fire	Nov 13 – 18	300
2009	Jesusita Fire	May 5 - 18	812
2008	Gap Fire	July 1 – 28	175
2007	Zaca Fire	July 4	100
2004	Gaviota Fire	July 6 – 12	
1993	Marre Fire	Sept 25 – Oct 2	
1990	Painted Cave Fire	June 27 – July 2	350

****This list contains the major events we have worked, there are a few minor incidents or mutual incidents in which we have been available to assist but they are not listed here.***