

LIVESTOCK EMERGENCY RESPONSE COURSE (LERC)

BC has a very active and dynamic equine recreation and sport sector with well over 100,000 horses that would benefit from having trained responders.

As well as a livestock welfare issue, there is a large cost associated with accidents; the loss of the value of the animal, the cost of rescue and recovery, the loss of equipment and the increase in insurance cost. Emergency situations involving livestock are stressful and panicked injured animals can be dangerous to those involved.

Horse Council BC would like to extend an invitation to offer your personnel an opportunity to take a complimentary workshop on safe, effective handling and restraint of horses during an emergency.

We are offering expert technical training at no charge for police, fire, and veterinarians to complement their existing skills. Class size is best kept to 20-25 attendees.

The course content includes

- + barn fires
- + transportation accidents
- + extrication of horses from ditches and confined areas

The course can be tailored to accommodate regional needs and is offered as a two day or one day session, depending on content and number of attendees. Generally 4-6 hours of theory and 4 - 6 hours of practical training, including using live horses to practice catching and leading.

A life-size equine articulating mannequin is also used to enable realistic training scenarios with exercises in lifts and drag for extrication from ditches etc.

A manual will be provided and instructor Jennifer Woods leaves attendees with a good practical understanding of what to do and what is proper on scene protocol.



Instructor Jennifer Woods is a livestock handling specialist with an undergrad degree in Animal Science and a master's degree in Veterinary Preventative Medicine. She regularly assists and trains fire departments with livestock accident protocol and is certified in technical large animal rescue.

Jennifer has worked all over the world as a consultant to the livestock industry since 1998. Her areas of expertise include euthanasia, animal handling and behavior, animal welfare auditing and assessing, livestock emergency response, transportation, and facility design.

This is an outline of what can be offered:

- On the spot decision making for motor vehicle accidents, fire and emergency situations involving livestock
- Lift and drag for downed horses
Learn to handle and contain livestock
- Trailer design and extrication
- Animal behavior, particularly in distress situations
- Means to calm, rescue, capture and temporarily confine animals
- Laws, ethics, and euthanasia protocol

Requirements;

- Outdoor or indoor arena
- 4-6 quiet horses, to practice catching, haltering and leading
- Classroom for theory - or tables and chairs set up in arena
- Screen with projector for presentation
- 3-5 different styles of livestock trailers – *they vary so much it is helpful to have an assortment*
- Use of an outside area for practicing extrication with the equine mannequin.
- Any place with a ditch and rail fence is ideal, we could also put in a stall or in a trailer in various positions

Through this course training, the welfare of the animals will be greatly benefited, the safety of responders increased and the economic impact significantly decreased

Horse Council BC covers all costs for this course, there is no charge for invited attendees. Please feel free to forward this information to any of your colleagues who may be interested in attending. Please contact me at your convenience.

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