

AAEP State Equine Emergency Network (SEEN)

The SEEN program is a newly developed effort designed to achieve the following goals:

1. Improve communication between the AAEP staff, its members and state animal emergency management officials when an emergency or disaster occurs.
2. Educate members and others within the state and federal animal emergency systems about the importance of including equine preparedness and rescue efforts into their plans.
3. Provide a conduit for interested AAEP members and others to gain credible information when an emergency or disaster occurs.
4. Empower AAEP members with the knowledge and tools to become active within their states and to serve as a liaison for the equine veterinary profession and the AAEP during times of crisis within their state.

By achieving the above goals, the AAEP and its membership will provide a service to its clients and the horse owning public, but more importantly it will help meet AAEP's mission - to improve the health and welfare of the horse, to further the professional development of its members, and to provide resources and leadership for the benefit of the equine industry.

The role of the SEEN Liaison

1. To serve the AAEP and your clients by providing needed assistance as a communication liaison.
2. To assist with knowing and contacting your state veterinarian and associated animal emergency management officials.
3. To assist with knowing and contacting individual veterinarians within your area and/or state to verify their needs and well being.
4. To assist as needed and supply assessments to AAEP staff and the SEEN Liaisons via the listserv or other means of communication.
5. To find proper ways to disseminate information through your state system.
6. To provide media information on a state level but only through the state system.
7. To assist in educating equine owners, owner education organizations and state equine practitioner groups about equine emergency and disaster preparedness and AAEP's resources.
8. To assist in developing and improving communications through learning from others during such emergencies and disasters. (ie. best practices for dealing with emergencies and disasters)
9. To be willing to learn about proper procedures and working within your state's requirements and systems.
10. To be willing to find a replacement to serve as a liaison for your state if you should need to remove yourself from serving in this position.
11. To assist your state with obtaining needed assistance by using resources that you learn about through your participation in the SEEN program.

- a. While working through the state system, such resources could include:
 - i. Access to satellite phones
 - ii. ID equipment and/or databases
 - iii. Mapping system information
 - iv. State data
 - v. Credentialing
 - vi. Resource typing
 - vii. Area Emergency Coordinators (A total of 16)
 - viii. Generators, supplies and other needed items

SEEN liaisons participate and share information via a listserv and conference calls. A database is currently under construction that will provide detailed information and contacts for each state. This database will serve as an important resource for equine practitioners, horse owners and emergency management officials during times of need. Additionally, as this program grows, more related efforts will be established to improve the communication and working operations of the SEEN program and its counterparts within the animal emergency management industry.

For more information about the SEEN program or to learn how to become a liaison for your state, please contact Keith Kleine, Director of Industry Relations at the AAEP via phone at 859-233-0147 or 1-800-443-0177 (U.S. Only) or via e-mail at kkleine@aaep.org.

Unfortunately, this program is currently only available within the U.S.