
MANITOBA AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL INITIATIVES**Preparing for Flood Conditions in Rural Manitoba****Key Contacts for Animal Care**

- **Animal Care Line at 204-945-8000 in Winnipeg** will co-ordinate requests for help from pet owners and hobby farms affected by flooding. The line is open between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily. After-hours requests will be recorded on an answering machine which will be monitored regularly. All calls will be referred to the appropriate agencies including the Winnipeg Humane Society, City of Winnipeg (Animal Control), Manitoba Emergency Response for Animals (MERA) and Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association.
- **Winnipeg Humane Society at 982-2021** can advise on emergency care for your pets. (www.winnipeghumanesociety.ca/your_Pet/Emergency_Preparedness.php)
- **Manitoba Horse Council Horse Rescue at 204-925-5718 in Winnipeg** will help arrange for moving and temporary boarding of horses.
- **Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC)** local offices will provide information on agricultural insurance. (www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf)
- Additional information on flood preparations and response is available at www.gov.mb.ca/flooding.

Caring for Livestock

- Most producers and rural area residents have flood plans that include care of livestock and stored grain crops.
- Producers need to ensure their livestock has access to feed and water on high ground. They may need to arrange for additional feed onsite if the herd cannot be moved or if local roads are blocked.
- Producers who need help finding a temporary location for livestock should contact their local GO Office.
- Producers must ensure there is adequate feed and water at any temporary location being used by their livestock.

Caring for Pets

- Pet owners should have a plan for their pets if they must evacuate their homes. Owners should take all pets with them or make alternate arrangements with family or friends.
- When moving pets, ensure they are in a proper transportation kennel or container and have access to food and emergency care. Keep proper animal control equipment with the animal. This includes leads or leashes as well as the animal's food and water containers.

- If pet owners cannot keep their pets with them, consider boarding at an animal kennel, humane society or at a veterinary office. There will be a charge for this, but it may be refunded through an individual Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) claim.

Protecting Crops

- Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives has a series of fact sheets dealing with crop production when there is excess moisture. These cover late planting, soil fertility, disease management and dealing with farm equipment and pesticide containers that may have been flooded. Contact your GO Office.
- Most grain in flood areas is protected from floodwater or has been moved to safe storage. Producers with grain storage bins on land that is in danger of flooding should make plans to move the grain as soon as possible.
- The Canadian Wheat Board has provided additional railcars in the Red River Valley to free up elevator space. This will allow producers to deliver their accepted A and B grade grain. Grades with fusarium head blight are also being shipped.
- Agricultural producers in flood areas can get special spring-road restriction permits. They allow producers to move grain, oilseed and livestock out of flood-affected areas. Contact your GO Offices or Motor Carrier Permits and Development in Winnipeg, Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 204-945-8030, 204-945-3961; or toll-free 1-877-812-0009.
- The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) offers a range of crop insurance coverage that includes excess moisture. For information about specific programs, contact your MASC office or go to www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf.
- Farm production advisors and business development specialists at GO Centres are available to answer questions and help producers deal with specific flood issues.
- Producers and residents should contact local municipal offices if there are culverts that need to be opened to keep water flowing along ditches.

Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line

The Manitoba Farm and Rural Stress Line offers confidential support, counselling and information for rural residents. Call toll free 1-866-367-3276 or go to www.ruralstress.ca.

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