

Dear Interested Disaster Relief Donors,

Thank you so much for your interest and caring.

The State of Texas, Texas Animal Health Commission and Texas Equine Veterinary Association are asking volunteers not to self-deploy to the Houston area, as unexpectedly showing up in any of the communities that have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey will create an additional burden for first responders.

Although the need is great and desire to help strong, **it is important to avoid donating material goods or self-deploying until communities are safe** and public officials and disaster relief organizations have had an opportunity to assess the damage and identify what the specific unmet needs are.

First responders and animal health care officials are still rescuing horses and other animals and setting up hub and shelter locations to assist.

Please be patient.

While we are currently accepting supply donations at the AAEP office at the Kentucky Horse Park, it is not known yet as to when we will be able to send these donations. Our trusted colleagues managing the disaster in Texas and Louisiana will instruct us as to the best time to ship.

Several organizations have established equine disaster relief funds which will be providing financial resources to help horses and their caretakers who are in need. **Please recommend to your friends, organizations and others and share on social media that monetary donations to organizations they trust are the best thing to do now.** A list of these groups is listed here: <https://foundation.aep.org/harvey>.

Thank You!

AAEP & AAEP Foundation