



Emergency Animal Rescue Field Safety Checklist

For use with the Emergency Animal Response Guide & Toolkit

KEEP YOURSELF SAFE SO YOU CAN HELP OTHERS

Emergency environments are unpredictable. This checklist helps reduce risk while responding to animal-related situations. **Remember: Your safety comes first. Helping animals is important—but not at the cost of your own safety.**



BEFORE YOU GO & INITIAL ASSESSMENT

- Wear appropriate clothing
- Bring a charged phone
- Let someone know your location
- Review the situation before arriving

On arrival:

- Look for fire, damage, or hazards
- Watch for traffic or active zones
- Do not enter unsafe areas

If it feels unsafe, do not proceed.



APPROACH ANIMALS CAREFULLY

- Assume animals are stressed or scared
- Move slowly and stay calm
- Do not chase or corner animals
- Use a leash, crate, or barrier if possible



DO NOT

- Put yourself at risk
- Enter unstable or restricted areas
- Handle aggressive animals alone
- Attempt rescues beyond your ability



USE CAUTION & STAY SAFE

- Use caution with injured or frightened animals, multiple animals, and distressed owners.
- Beware of changing conditions
- Stay aware of your surroundings
- Communicate with your team

If conditions change, stop, reassess, and contact the coordinator.

NEXT STEP

Download the Animal Emergency Response Playbook & Toolkit.
borealanimalrescue.ca/resources

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Boreal Animal Rescue