

THE CANADIAN HORSE COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER MAY 1974

SUGGESTED FIRE SAFETY RULES FOR STABLES

The following suggested fire safety rules for stables for the benefit of Canadian horsemen and women with the kind permission of the "Horse Show" magazine of the American Horse Shows Association, Inc.

1. Have an adequate number of stable doors. (At least four, one on each wall. Dutch doors opening out, preferably on each stall.)
2. Have all horses and ponies trained to go freely out of every exit.
3. All exits should open into enclosed areas, so that horses and ponies can not run away.
4. Have easy flip up stable latches on all stall doors.
5. No draughts. No crowding stalls and stall doors in the barn.
6. Electricity off at night. Master switch handy to throw on in a hurry. (It is much easier to remove horses in a lighted barn.)
7. Absolutely no smoking in or around barn area at any time.
8. Have someone sleeping in or near stable at all times.
9. Allow no one who drinks heavily or is using any form of drugs in the barn area.
10. No electric doors. Burned wire could block escape.
11. Accurate number of horses and ponies in barn should be posted by the doors.
12. Halters with tie ropes should be hanging outside each stall.
13. Long hose attached to barn water hydrant should reach from one end of the barn to the other.
14. No storage of gas, ammunition, or any explosive or inflammable material in the barn.
15. No storage of any motor vehicle in the barn.
16. Plastic is highly inflammable.
17. Fumes from plastic feed bags can rupture lungs.
18. Spraying of any type is extremely dangerous. (Especially polyurethane and polystyrene.)
19. Smoke detectors may be more practical than heat detectors.

Ask firemen to please keep flashlights off when trying to remove horses in the dark. The lights throwing shadows on walls and floors, or in their eyes, frightens and blinds them. Open all stall doors at once. If they are reluctant to leave, remove their water buckets and throw the water behind them. If they still refuse, whack them on the rear end with the buckets, this will tend to scare them forward into action. Finally, because the barn is home to them, keep people posted at the doors to prevent them from going back inside.

REMEMBER: In case of fire, TIME & TEAMWORK is of utmost importance.