



Policies, Procedures, and Protocols

Title: Escaped Animal Protocol	Original Date:	1/2019
	Last Review Date:	
	Last Revised Date:	3/2021

Approved by: Sunshine Board of Directors

Date: 3/2019

Purpose	To safely capture an escaped equine.
Content	<p>DON'T PANIC</p> <p>IF YOU CHASE HORSES THEY WILL RUN</p> <p>IF POSSIBLE LET THE ANIMAL CALM AND SLOWLY APPROACH</p> <p>Establish an “on call escaped animal team”. These are people called if horses escape in between barn shifts. Because you are dealing with escaped animals Team members should live near Sunshine, these people don't necessarily have to be volunteers at Sunshine just willing to help when needed. (see Emergency Contact List / Phone Tree)</p> <p>If horses escape during a barn shift notify the shift lead in person or via cell phone. Try to avoid yelling and other loud noises that might spook the horse(s).</p> <p>If the horse(s) have <u>not left the property</u>, aren't agitated or excited take time to grab some grain, a lead line and extra halter, notify any available volunteers</p> <p>If the horse(s) <u>have not left the property, BUT ARE agitated and excited</u> stand quietly and let the animal calm down. Call for help (must establish how, yelling may further spook horses or loud whistles or horns). Helpers should bring grain, lead line and extra halter (in case escaped horse(s) have slipped theirs)</p> <p>Slowly approach while making a kissing sound, if the horse moves away stop your approach.</p>



Stand quietly for a few minutes,

Turn your back to the horse and walk away a few feet.

Turn and face the horse.

Stand quietly for a few minutes

Then slowly approach making a kissing sound, hopefully you will be able to get closer and closer by repeating this process.

Only one person should attempt to approach the horse, others should remain back far enough so the horse doesn't feel cornered, but ready to shout and wave arms, if the horse bolts towards road or other dangerous area.

If the horse(s) **have left the property, call 911 and animal control first.** (add phone number for animal control for town of Clay) Ask that they not run sirens or lights as this will spook the horse(s) more and that they not chase or try to catch the animal. Wait for an experienced handler to arrive. Specifically ask they control traffic only.

Grab some grain, a lead line and extra halter.

Recaptured horses should be put in their stalls and checked for injuries.

The pasture where the horses escaped from needs to be reported to pasture manager for repair. It should be clearly marked closed for repairs on pasture board.

References