

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2010

1ST ANNUAL LARGE ANIMAL DISASTER DRILL

ALL CERTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE



By Marc Hedgpath – SJC CERT Board Member and LART Lead Instructor

Attention All CERT and All LART Members - On Saturday, October 30, 2010 we will hold our first Large Animal Disaster Drill at the Rancho Mission Viejo Riding Park of San Juan Capistrano (formally Oaks/Blenheim), located at the corner of La Pata and the Ortega Highway. Registration for the drill will begin at 8:00 AM. The drill will be completed no later than 2:00 PM.

Although we would have preferred that this drill be held several months ago, scheduling conflicts necessitated the late October date.

It is essential that all Large Animal Response Team (LART) members, regardless of rating level attend this drill. In addition all CERT members who are available that day are asked to participate. We anticipate that, under actual emergency conditions, the LART volunteers will heavily rely on other CERT volunteers to handle many of the tasks associated with the evacuation and sheltering of large animals that do not require actual physical contact with the animals. Therefore, we strongly encourage all CERT volunteers to participate in this drill, regardless of their level of experience with animals.

The purpose of this drill is to familiarize all CERTs with the evacuation of horses, set-up, organization and the operation of a Sheltering Site, staging area procedures, required documentation, and how our evacuation and sheltering procedures utilize the Incident Command System. We will also be using dispatch and radio protocol and emergency response forms.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend this very valuable and important training. We look forward to seeing all of you on Saturday, October 30, 2010.

Please RSVP to email CERT@sanjuancapistrano.org.

(More information to follow as the training date gets closer)