



**DO NOT WAIT UNTIL AN ACCIDENT OCCURS TO
CONTACT YOUR AMBULANCE SERVICE
PROVIDER**

**Call and arrange a time for them to come to your farm
and look things over.**

**Listen to their suggestions and implement necessary
changes.**

Familiarize your staff with ambulance plans.

911

Useful Tips When Waiting for an Ambulance to Arrive

- The operator will also require some information about the problem you are calling about. For example, is the patient in Sudden Cardiac Arrest? Are they conscious? Are they breathing normally? Do they have a pulse? Is their color normal? Do you have a defibrillator at hand?
- You will be asked what happened that has caused the problem you are calling about. For example, was it a motor vehicle crash? Did the patient fall from a ladder? Did they collapse at home? Have clear answers and provide helpful information.
- Ensure there is a clear pathway to the entrance of your property. This may involve moving objects such as cars, pot plants or furniture. The paramedics may need to take a stretcher or equipment to where the patient is located.
- Lock away any pets. We know they won't bite you, your friends and family, but with strangers it is sometimes a lot different. Remember, you know and feed your pet dogs, but the paramedics are complete strangers to them!! Lock them in the laundry, back yard or other safe place until the paramedics and others (such as police, welfare workers, etc.) have departed.
- Pack any personal items that may belong to the patient in a small bag and send with someone who is going to the hospital with them.
- Make sure your home can be identified, even in the dark. Your house number should be visible and large enough to read from the road. Turn on an outside light. If possible, have someone go outside to wait for the ambulance to arrive. Have a car in the driveway? Turn on your hazard lights, and if possible, move car into the street – this allows the paramedics to quickly identify your location, and, also allows them easier access to your premises with their equipment and stretcher.
- Send someone out to wait for the arrival of the ambulance and guide them with directions. Ideally, the paramedics will look for, and use the simplest way in and out of the location.
- Remember that most ambulance vehicles that transport patients are higher than a usual vehicle – look for barriers that may prevent the paramedics from driving as close to the scene as a normal car would. Trim trees and bushes so that it is easier for an ambulance to get in. Consider gates and structures that may pose a problem.
- Prepare any details that will assist the paramedic, such as patient name, D.O.B, current medications, any known allergies to medications and past medical history if known. If calling an ambulance on behalf of a guest, if possible have someone who knows them handy to answer questions.
- If time and helping hands permit, move furniture and other items from hallways, corridors, stores, barns, restrooms, etc. to make extrication of the patient easier, faster and more practical.
- If patient is conscious, keep calm and provide comforting items such as a drink of cool water, a warm blanket, a washcloth, kind and encouraging words.
- Consider the privacy of the patient and family by quickly removing other guests from the area. Do not allow people the opportunity to use their cell phones to take pictures and videos of the person because they may not appreciate the invasion of their privacy.
- Provide a safe and calm/comforting place for family members or friends of the patient to gather and talk.
- If possible, gather information on the patient so that after they are gone you know who they were and how you could follow up to see how they are doing.