



Topic: Animal Safety

Accessing Water Points



SFRS priority is to support our communities by reducing risks and improving the wellbeing of both our occupiers and livestock.

With this SFRS receive a number of calls to attend incidents where livestock have entered a local water course.

Given a choice, livestock will drink from the most convenient source available, which may be a stream, lake or canal.

It is, therefore, quite common to see livestock accessing our water courses to keep hydrated.

What do you need to do?

Most natural watercourses will pass through the natural grazing area for a farms livestock, if you are out in your community and you do observe any livestock keeping hydrating we would ask that you consider the following before dialling 999 this will then allow you to make a considered decision as to whether it is an emergency:-

- Does the animal seem in distress, is the rest of the herd demonstrating signs of distress
- How long has the animal been in the water
- Is the animal out of its depth
- Are you able to contact the land owner / farmer

IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service are here to support the welfare of both our community and its livestock.

If you are not sure whether an animal is in distress and you feel it does require an emergency response please do call 999

Please ensure that you provide our call operators with as much information as possible:-

- **Animal Type**
- **How many Animals are involved**
- **Exact location**

Your local prevent team

For further animal safety advice please contact your local Prevent Team on 01785 898719 or via email: -

WSDGPreventTeam@staffordshirefire.gov.uk.

Please remember to report an emergency please call 999 and ask for the Fire Service.