

Delaware Equine News

Vol. 22 No.

www.delawareequinecouncil.org

April/May/June 2023

2023 Delaware Equine Council Foundation Scholarship Winners

Each scholarship was worth \$1500 and wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors and numerous donations large and small! We thank all of you!

M&T Bank of Harrington with bank manager Cydney Johnson and staff present the M&T Scholarship to Meghan Gamble



Mr. & Mrs. Collins accept the George Parris Memorial Scholarship for their daughter Kaitlyn Collins



DEC President Kate Bowski presents the Linda Chick Memorial Scholarship to Elyssa Sherman



DEC Board Members present the Delaware Equine Council Scholarship to Mr. & Mrs. Stoop accepting for their daughter Seline Stoop



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Ever had a horse down, fall in a ditch or get stuck in your pond or any number of other equine emergencies?

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A veterinarian has to be called in to initiate the Large Animal Response Team. Sussex County!! We need your help to get the equipment purchased to station in the southern part of the state in order to respond quickly and save YOUR horse's life!

Breaking News

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we are looking for a new meeting location. The **NEW** location will be announced via Facebook as soon as it's secured."

DEC Schooling Series Shows will now be held at Pairadice Equestrian LLC. 26632 Equistar Drive, Milton DE.



President's Message

Spring is here, horse show season has begun, a great time for trail riding and all other equestrian activities. There are a number of DEC activities to be aware of including the Schooling Show Series, and a very important Fundraiser for the Large Animal Rescue Equipment for Sussex County. Although we all hope to never have a need for this equipment, if you do you hope that the equipment is near enough to perform a rescue in quick order. We're asking for your financial support in this effort. See our postings on Facebook for how you can contribute. Have a great spring and we'll see you at our monthly meetings.

Ken Horeis, DEC President

**Next DEC Meeting
To Be Announced**



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- Secretary, Julie Warrington.....302-423-7393
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- Holly Vigilante.....973-462-4286.....horseyofcoursey@gmail.com
- Meredith Smith.... 631-988-4086.....horsejudge27@aol.com

~Welcome New DEC Members~ New Individual Members

**Jill Borowsky, Sandy Tucker, Jennifer Reynolds
Stacey Diehl, Jennifer Oppenheim**

Schedule of Meeting Speakers for 2023 3rd Monday of the Month

- May**-Sherry Harris-Natural Horsemanship
- June**-No meeting
- July**- Dr. Nikki Scherrer, New Bolton Ophthalmologist, Omega Horse Rescue
- August**-Allison Meadows of the Mounted Police
- September**
- October**
- November**

If you or someone you know would like to present at a meeting, please contact a Board member



No Charge Website Calendar Available

The Delaware Equine Council has launched a Free **Equine-Related Calendar** visible to the whole world. Listing is self-service ANYONE CAN ADD AN EVENT! Membership is not required

Just go to www.delawareequinecouncil.org and follow the "News & Events" link to our "Calendar" page. Fill out the form at the bottom. Submit for review, and it will be posted within hours

Spring Pasture Management Tips for Horses

nourishtheplanet@gmail.com

by NTP Staff | Mar 16, 2016 | Livestock, Publication



Spring is fast approaching and this time of the year, timing is everything. Grasses grow fast as the weather warms up, and so, grazing horses and spring pasture management is crucial.

It might be tempting to graze your horses out onto your field at the first sight of green spring grasses. However, it's important to time and manage your pasture grazing. Below are a few tips to consider before you start grazing your horses.

A Few tips to consider before grazing horses

If you have fenced off your grazing land all winter, your pasture grasses had time to recover and you can begin to graze your horses now. However, putting your horses out to graze too soon or grazing too much could reduce the productivity of your grazing field in the summer and hurt your horses' health. Proper grazing and balanced nutrition on the other hand would boost the health of your horses.

1. Your horses shouldn't have too much grass too quickly

During the spring, your horses need time to adjust to the changes in diet and so, allowing them to have too much grass too quickly can be harmful for their digestive systems.

Limit grazing time for your horses. Begin with an hour at a time and work your way up to several hours over a few weeks period of time. Horses rely heavily on microbes in their gastrointestinal tract to process forages. If the eating habits are changed suddenly, the microbial population may not have enough time to adjust to the new diet.

2. Let your healthy grasses grow

To avoid soil being compacted and suffocating your growing plants, avoid grazing horses on your pasture when the ground is still soggy. When the ground firms up, your grasses have a better chance of growing. Wait until your grasses are at least 6 inches tall, and then you can ease your horses into your pasture, gradually increasing the grazing time.

3. Rotate your pastures

You can keep your grasses healthy by rotating your pasture grazing areas. You can divide your pasture into smaller grazing fields and rotate your horses through them. This way, one area of your pasture can still grow and recover while others get grazed.

4. Stocking rates

Make sure your horses have large enough areas for grazing. As a standard rule, 2 acres per 1000 lb horse is recommended. Also make sure that the fences are properly in place. Gates should be placed firmly for guiding and controlling movement of horses from stalls to the pastures.

5. Cover up bare spots

Bare spots in your pasture can encourage weed growth and mud during the summer. Spread grass seeds on bare spots or in areas where no grass is growing, or where grass is not growing as thickly as you'd like.

6. Do a soil test of your pasture

Pasture grasses almost always grow on their own, and don't need additional fertilizers to grow healthy. Overuse of fertilizers can cause harm to your horses and also to the environment. Do a soil test to see if your soil really needs any additional nutrients to avoid wasting your time and money.

Organic fertilizers, horse manure, and waste can be spread over your pasture for great results if needed. Chemical and synthetic fertilizers should be used with caution because they get washed into nearby bodies of water like streams and lakes, causing water pollution.

Conclusion

To keep your horses and pasture grasses healthy throughout spring and summer, managing your pasture is important. Dried hay and pasture grasses contain different amounts of moisture. A gradual change in feedstuff will allow the microbes to adjust to the changes, reduce toxin build up, and benefit both the horse's digestive system and your pasture grasses.

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DEC Trailer Tag legislation for DMV

Some have had difficulty obtaining our beautiful DEC tag for their trailers. Please show the DMV this legislation (House Bill 437) as proof that it's legal to have a DEC tag on your trailer.

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Delaware 4H Horse Program Be part of something special

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Contact your county 4H agent for more information or read your county 4H newsletters to learn more about what Delaware 4H has to offer!

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Article Submission

Do you have something interesting
happening in the equine world?

Send articles and information for the
Delaware Equine News to
warrington_girls@yahoo.com

Getting Your Horse to Drink on the Road

By Martin W. Adams, PhD, PAS – Equine Nutritionist for Cargill Animal Nutrition



Horses require anywhere from 8 to 30 gallons of water per day, depending on environmental conditions and activity level. In hot, humid weather the horse can sweat as much as 4 gallons per hour, so they can become severely dehydrated with prolonged work or travel. Electrolytes should be used during training, showing, and travel in hot weather to encourage the horse to drink.

When traveling to horse shows, some horses will become stressed and not drink as much as they should to avoid dehydration. Also, some horses are reluctant to drink water from sources other than their own barn.

To keep the horse from refusing to drink water as you travel from show to show, “flavor” the water at your barn. You can use a small amount of sweetened Kool-Aid, molasses, spearmint or peppermint oil, Gatorade, or whatever your horse likes to get him to drink readily from any water source.

If your horse won't eat powdered electrolytes that you put in feed, take a container or resealable plastic bag, like a gallon Ziploc® bag, fill it halfway full of beet pulp, add 2 to 4 ounces of salt or electrolytes, and then fill it with water. Wait an hour and then add a portion of the wet beet pulp that contains the added salt or electrolyte to their feed. Your horse should eat the mixture readily.



1. **Leadline:** Walk-ask a question
2. **Leadline:** Walk/ Trot
3. **Leadline:** Walk/Trot/2 point at a walk
4. **Pre-Special Beginner:** Walk/Trot
5. **Pre-Special Beginner:** Walk/Trot
6. **Pre-Special Beginner:** Walk/Trot/Ground pole
7. **Special Beginner:** Walk/Trot
8. **Special Beginner:** Walk/Trot/ Individual Canter
9. **Special Beginner:** Walk/Trot/Trot or Canter Ground Pole or Crossrail
10. **Short Stirrup:** Walk/Trot
11. **Short Stirrup:** Walk/Trot/Canter (No more than 4 to canter at one time)
12. **Short Stirrup:** X-Rails (Trotting permitted)
13. **Open Beginner:** Walk/Trot
14. **Open Beginner:** Walk/Trot/Canter (No more than 5 to canter at one time)
15. **Open Beginner:** X-Rails (Trotting permitted)
16. **Cross Rail Hunter:** X-Rails (Trotting permitted)
17. **Cross Rail Hunter:** X-Rails (Trotting permitted)
18. **Cross Rail Hunter:** Under Saddle (No more than 5 to canter at one time)
19. **AAE:** Walk/Trot/Canter
20. **AAE:** Over fences 2' with change of direction
21. **AAE:** Over fences 2' with change of direction
22. **Schooling Hunter:** Over Fences 2'0"
23. **Schooling Hunter:** Over Fences - 2'0"
24. **Schooling Hunter:** Under Saddle (No more than 5 to canter at one time)
25. **Rusty Riders:** Walk/Trot
26. **Rusty Riders:** Walk/Trot/Canter
27. **Rusty Riders:** 2 Ground Poles r or Cross Rails
28. **Child/Adult Hunter:** Over Fences - 2'3" to 2'6"
29. **Child/Adult Hunter:** Over Fences - 2'3" to 2'6"
30. **Child/Adult Hunter:** Under Saddle (No more than 5 to canter at one time)
31. **Child/Adult Equitation:** Walk/Trot/Canter
32. **Medal:** 2'3" to 2'6"
33. **Medal:** 2'3" to 2'6"
34. **Schooling Jumpers:** Timed First Jump Off 2'0" to 2'6"
35. **Schooling Jumpers:** Timed First Round 2'0" to 2'6"
36. **Schooling Jumpers:** Timed First Jump Off 2'0" to 2'6"
37. **TB Hunter:** Over Fences 2'0" to 2'3"
38. **TB Hunter:** Over Fences 2'0" to 2'3"
39. **TB Hunter:** Under Saddle
40. **TB Jumpers:** Timed First Jump Off 2'0" to 2'3"
41. **TB Jumpers:** Timed First Round 2'0" to 2'3"
42. **TB Jumpers:** Timed First Jump Off 2'0" to 2'3"

Revised

2023 DEC Schedule

Show Dates

May 21, 2023

July 29, 2023

September 9, 2023

****October 8, 2023****

(Rain Date - October 15, 2023)

****Points will be doubled at this horse show!**

Warm Up Will Begin at 8:00AM
Show Will Start at 9:00AM

Pre-entry fees: \$12.00 per class or \$30.00 a division.
One-time post-entry fee of \$10.00

www.delawareequinecouncil.org
Phone or text entries to Joan Greenberg-631-905-5800
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Paradise Equestrian LLC



TIPS FOR TROUBLE-FREE HORSE TRAILERING

Patience, preparation, and a tried-and-true approach to loading can make every travel experience a safe, trouble-free one for your horse.

By Whit Watkins with Liz Iliff for Practical Horseman magazine

Whenever I see a fellow competitor having trouble loading a horse into a trailer, I run as fast as I can. in the other direction. A slight exaggeration, maybe, but that's how strongly I feel about avoiding trailering problems. I try to set up my horses for success so there's never any question about how they'll react when it's time to enter or exit a trailer. I rely on plenty of patience and preparation to transform their uncertainty into confidence and cooperation.

Here are some tips for trailering multiple horses as well as properly using food as a motivator for loading.

More Than One for the Road

Trailering multiple horses—even proven travel troopers—means adding several steps to your loading plan to ensure that everyone arrives at your destination safe and sound.

Schedule sufficient time to prepare for the trip and load the horses.

Attending to details at the last minute will leave you feeling rushed. Then you'll be more prone to mistakes, less aware of your horse's behavior and more likely to transmit your anxiety to him. I recommend estimating how much time you'll need to get ready—then add another 30 minutes.

Arrange to have at least one handler for every horse.

Even when you're trailering a single horse, it's a good idea to have a helper on hand. My rule is: If you don't have enough help, don't go. Discuss each facet of your loading and unloading plan with your helpers so there's no confusion about how you want to proceed

Decide the order in which you'll load. Horses are creatures of habit. A veteran may get miffed if he's not the first one on the trailer, and a newbie may be more willing to enter if he sees another horse already on board. Also try to accommodate those who have a preference for where they ride—left or right in a straight-load trailer, front, back or middle in a slant load.

Agree on where the unloaded horses will stand. Trailering can be a bonding experience, and separating one horse from his travel buddy can be traumatic. To ease the anxiety of the horse being loaded, position his pal where he can be seen through the open door or window of the trailer. Along the same lines, during unloading keep the horse who's already exited nearby so his buddy on board won't feel abandoned.

Prepare for a problem loader. Determine exactly how you and your helpers will work together to get him on the trailer. Stress the importance of safety and staying clear of the horse's hooves.

Also agree on the sequence of steps you'll follow, such as when the trailer door will be closed, to accomplish them without hesitation. The problem loader is another article entirely!



The Food Motivator

1. If your horse is just a bit nervous or hesitant, you may gain his cooperation by offering him food. In photo 1 my helper is offering my up-and-coming FEI horse, Cipriani, an 8-year-old Westfalen, owned by myself and Nancy Haywood, a little grain in a bucket.

2. After Cipriani has seen the food and had a little nibble, she'll hold it just out of reach to entice him to step onto the ramp. As he starts to walk into the trailer, she'll move forward and on the other side of the chest bar to encourage him to walk all the way in. Note that I have Cipriani in shipping boots, which cover his knees and hocks to offer the greatest protection. If your horse throws his head around, you also can use a head bumper.

To read about Whit's step-by-step approach for turning virtually any horse into a "travel trooper," see "Trouble-Free Trailering" in the August 2010 issue of Practical Horseman.



Shannon Crockett
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Upcoming Events:

- April 22 - ESWHSA Ranch Show** at Oak Hill Stables Federalsburg MD
- May 7 - ESWHSA show** hosted by **Holly Glen Farm** at Caroline County 4H Park
- May 14 - ESWHSA show** Hosted by **DQHA** at Caroline County 4H Park
- May 20 - ESWHSA Ranch Show** at Oak Hill Stables Federalsburg MD
- May 21 - DEC Show Series at Pairadice Equestrian LLC Milton DE**
- June 10 - ESWHSA Ranch Show** at Origami Stables Dover DE
- June 18 - ESWHSA show** Hosted by **DAHA** at Caroline County 4H Park
- June 25 - ESWHSA show** Hosted by **Kent County 4H** at Harrington Fairgrounds
- July 29 - DEC Show Series at Pairadice Equestrian LLC Milton DE**
- Aug 12 - ESWHSA Ranch Show** at Origami Stables Dover DE
- Aug 20 - ESWHSA show** Hosted by **DMHC & AMBA** at Caroline County 4H Park
- Sept 9 - DEC Show Series at Pairadice Equestrian LLC Milton DE**
- Sept 10 - ESWHSA show** Hosted by **ESWWSA** at Caroline County 4H Park
- Sept 16 & 17 - DAHA Fall Spotacular** ApHC & Open All Breed Show at Harrington Fairgrounds
- Oct 8 - DEC Show Series at Pairadice Equestrian LLC Milton DE**

SAVE THE DATE

SDTR's Kentucky Derby Day
May 6, 2023 | 4:30 - 7:30 PM

Tickets go on sale April 3, 2023.



Heavy hors d'oeuvres and an assortment of drinks including the famous Mint Juleps

LOCATED AT:
17170 Harbeson Rd., Milton DE

Tickets \$50
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2nd Annual Tuckahoe Equestrian Center OFFERS Scholarships



Tuckahoe Equestrian Center is pleased to be offering scholarships to students pursuing their education in equine studies, vet/vet tech or agricultural studies. This year, High School seniors, who are about to attend college in these areas, will also be eligible.

Three scholarships of \$1500 each will be awarded

Applications must be submitted by June 1, 2023 with results announced by July 1, 2023

Scholarship application, criteria and TEE membership application can be found on the TEE website: TuckahoeEquestrianCenter.com or call Stacy Frank at 516-901-4979.

Emergency Equine Assistance Program

DEC Emergency Equine Assistance Program is a payment program designed to assist horse/equine owners who demonstrate financial need with the cost of hay, feed, or veterinary services for their equines. Payments will be to the feed/hay suppliers or veterinarians to cover actual, documented out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the horse/equine owner. **Visit <https://delawareequinecouncil.org/eeap.php>** Our on-line application forms are the fastest way to get help. Please use the link to access the forms. Fill them out completely and accurately. When complete, they will be e-mailed directly to the committee.

2023 Milton Saint Patrick's Day Parade





Fair Hill Division, 71 Elk Mills Road, Elkton, MD 21921

443-553-6184 fairhillera@gmail.com

equineambulancemd.org

Press Release 4/20/23

On April 18, Equine Rescue Ambulance Fair Hill Division conducted a training for the mounted police units from Delaware State, New Castle County, Ocean City MD and Philadelphia and Delmarva Equine veterinarians and vet techs in Smyrna, DE.

Instructed by Jo Ann Bashore and Heather Miller, basic large animal rescue techniques were demonstrated. The participants had hands on practice with different scenarios to practice their skills. Kent County Special Ops Team provided a tripod to demonstrate how to lift a down horse using the 900-pound equine mannequin.

Equine Rescue Ambulance, Fair Hill Division Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit group, provides emergency rescue, stabilization, and transportation for downed and injured equine athletes. ERA is an all-volunteer, nonprofit, tax-exempt organization that has provided a humane and dignified approach to large animal rescue. The Fair Hill Division was established in November of 2019 to provide a much-needed service in the tri-state area. In 2022, they responded to 25 emergency calls, such as a horse cast in stall, horse hit by car, trapped in ditch and emergency transports to New Bolton in the Md, PA, DE and NJ area.

ERA Fair Hill Division has provided equine ambulance coverage at Foxcatcher Endurance Race, Willowdale Races, Winterthur Races, Radnor, Mt Harmon, Maryland 5* and PA Hunt Cup. The volunteers receive extensive training in technical large animal rescue.

They offer training and public outreach to better educate equestrians and first responders on a safe, efficient, and professional way to assist in an emergency. Donations are needed to fund necessary equipment and to continue this service in their community. Tax deductible donations can be sent to ERA, Fair Hill Division, 71 Elk Mills Road, Elkton, MD 21921 or PayPal at fairhillera@gmail.com



Delaware State Police training

Special interest! Doctors from Delmarva Equine! Can you spot Dr. Kevin Beaudoin, Dr. Sarah Varnell and Dr. Carolyn Smith??

Tyler Thompson with tripod



Eastern Equine Encephalitis Guidelines Now Available from the AAEP

Apr 4, 2023

**EASTERN
EQUINE
ENCEPHALITIS
GUIDELINES
NOW AVAILABLE**



Comprehensive guidelines to assist practitioners with the prevention, clinical signs, diagnostic sampling, and other considerations of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), an arbovirus in which mortality can exceed 90% in naive horses, have been published on the AAEP's website and On-the-Go app.

EEE has particular prevalence in the southeastern United States, although recent cases have been reported as far west as Texas and north into eastern Canada. Indirect transmission to horses occurs through bites from infected mosquitos. EEE is considered a core vaccine, and the mortality rate is lower in horses with previous vaccination or partial protection. Death usually occurs within three days of the onset of clinical signs; horses that survive may have permanent neurologic deficits, including abnormal mentation and/or residual ataxia.

"Eastern Equine Encephalitis continues to be a concern," said Barbara Jones, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, principal at One Health Consulting, LLC and president of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. "The updated guidelines ensure practitioners have the latest information on incubation period, and currently recommended diagnostic tests."

Besides vaccination, vector control through comprehensive mosquito mitigation efforts is strongly encouraged. As an OIE-reportable disease, suspected cases should be reported to the US Department of Agriculture and state animal health officials.

Dr. Jones co-authored the Eastern Equine Encephalitis Guidelines with Angela Pelzel-McCluskey, DVM, MS, national epidemiologist for equine diseases at USDA APHIS Veterinary Services. The guidelines were reviewed and approved by the AAEP's Infectious Disease Committee and Board of directors. View the guidelines or save them to your mobile device at <https://aaep.org/document/eastern-equine-encephalitis-eee>.

AAEP guidelines for 24 other equine infectious diseases are available at <https://aaep.org/guidelines/infectious-disease-control/using-guidelines>. In addition, six foreign animal disease guidelines can be found at <https://aaep.org/infectious-disease-control/foreign-animal-disease-guidelines>.

Mount Harmon Wicomico Hunt Point to Point

Photos by Tisa Della-Volpe





SALE



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Set of 4

New Improved Design

Made from breathable mesh, these fly boots feature 50% more sewn-in STAY UP technology. Our boots have three polymer stays, while the leading competitor has only two, Rugged Ride STAY UP Boots wrap securely with heavy duty, full length Velcro for durability and breakaway safety. They offer season-long protection and minimize stomping and sweating by just simply keeping flies off your horse's legs. These leggings-style boots have breathable mesh that keeps biting flies from penetrating and eliminates botfly eggs from being laid, all while allowing air to circulate. This is especially comfortable for healing wounds. Your horse will be under less stress and have less leg fatigue and fewer hoof cracks from constant stomping.



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Delaware Equine Council

2023 Horse Show Series

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Saturday, July 29, 2023

Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023

Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023*

*Raindate 10/15



→ **DOUBLE POINTS ON 10/8**