



New Hampshire Horse Council

The Equine Community Working Together
Mid Year 2020 Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NHHC Election Results	1
Equine Infectious Anemia	2
COVID-19 Information	3
COVID-19 Information continued	4
Officers/BOD Affiliate members	5

Our Annual Meeting in February 2020

mspca  **angell** Mass Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Kindness and Care for Animals®

<https://www.mspca.org/adoption-centers/nevins-farm-adoption-center/>

The meeting was a great success. We hosted Roger Lauze, Manager of Equine Rescue and Training at MSPCA who gave a very informative talk about a number of subjects, but mainly focusing on fire and barn emergency prevention.

 Up Reach Therapeutic Equestrian Center
UpReach www.upreachtec.org

UpReach Hosted our meeting and we got a chance to view part of their training methods while some of the meeting attendees got a chance to “dance” with horses.

Members are Important

When NHHC approaches state and local government bodies, membership numbers count. NHHC undertakes to be the voice of the horse owners of New Hampshire and to make our voice heard, we need to have the numbers to back us up. Your membership gives us the clout to make our voice mean something – to make sure that those who make the laws, listen to us.

Please use the attached application to renew your membership. Then, share this application with a friend or horse neighbor and ask them to join NHHC also. A PayPal payment option is available on our website. We won’t pretend that the dues money isn’t important. It takes cash to be able to print and distribute information and forms, but more than that, we NEED YOU!

Elections

We have a new President & Vice President!

Jozi Best has moved up to President and member Fred Klein-McNeil was elected as VP.

We still need members on our Board of Directors so don’t be shy, send in the BOD application and help with the work of keeping an eye on the health of the equine industry in NH.

Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA)

Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) is a viral disease affecting only members of the equidae family (horses, ponies, zebras, mules, and donkeys). There is no vaccine or treatment for the disease. Infection is often inapparent and results in a lifelong carrier state if the horse survives the acute phase of the infection. EIA is found widely throughout the world. There is no evidence that EIA is a threat to human health. EIA is a report-

How many Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) tests? A member of NHHC did a little research on the amount of EIA tests taken in NH. The EIA test could estimate the number of horses likely to travel to competitions, trail rides, clinics, lessons etc. or boards. This does not count all of NH horses, but could be a talking point when speaking about our horse industry's economic value.

The information was gathered from USDA's annual document that summarizes State reporting of Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) tests. State animal health officials report EIA testing and case information to APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) through the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS). The NAHRS is an online reporting tool enabling States to submit animal disease information to VS through the Internet with assurance of secure data transfer and information confidentiality. For States that did not use NAHRS, APHIS-VS requested EIA information by e-mail and recorded the data in the NAHRS database.

The research did not identify the significant cause of fluctuations seen below.

- 2007 tested New Hampshire 16,171
- 2008 tested New Hampshire 17,169
- 2009 tested New Hampshire 10,805
- 2010 tested New Hampshire 13,556
- 2011 tested New Hampshire 9,932
- 2012 tested New Hampshire 15,705
- 2013 tested New Hampshire 13,927
- 2014 tested New Hampshire 9,481
- 2015 tested New Hampshire 12,938
- 2016 tested New Hampshire 6,211
- 2017 tested New Hampshire 6,096
- 2018 tested New Hampshire 13,224
- 2019 tested New Hampshire 14,439

Often the NH equine population is estimated at 21,000. This is not an official estimate and should not be used as one, rather it is a completely arbitrary number that falls between the 2017 USDA NASS estimate of 7014 horses and an ancient (about 20 years ago) survey that reported >25,000 horses. The actual population could be much higher or lower. No one knows.

[USDA info about EIA](#)

[USDA/NAHRS info](#)

STATEWIDE NEWS



COVID-19 REOPENING GUIDANCE

GOVERNOR'S ECONOMIC REOPENING TASKFORCE

[NH Covid Guidance for Equestrian Facilities](#)

If you haven't seen it yet, here is a link to methods to safely open up your facility to instructors, horse owners, staff, show and clinics.

Equestrian Facility:

1. Lessons must be scheduled in a manner where physical distancing is appropriately applied and students must ride with their own personal riding gear. No shared helmets, vests, or boots are allowed.
2. For Horse Shows, spectators are limited as physical distancing allows, and must follow safety protocols. Vendors will be limited and set up in a way to adhere to UPDATED AUGUST 27, 2020 . physical distancing guidelines and must have reduced capacity of customers at their booths. Food services vendors must follow the Food Services Guidance.
3. Warm up Rings will be limited to riding space as physical distancing allows.
4. For individual or group clinics, with truck-ins, who have a working relationship with the clinician, trainer, and/or barn owner: these clinics may be conducted as long as physical distancing is maintained. Capacity will be limited to the size of the group where physical distancing can be maintained. Auditors shall be minimal and abide by physical distancing. Auditors should wear face coverings. All participants must follow state issued Food Service Industry Guidance for physical distancing at meal times.



COVID - 19 and Halloween

Another activity that is going to see some changes due to the coronavirus is Trick or Treat. Cities and towns and even neighborhoods are likely to make different decisions about this event depending on what the localities and even neighborhoods decide.

Of course, there are ways to make your own decision on whether or not to participate by simply keeping your children home and by turning on or not turning on your porch light.

The safest and most responsible option is to follow guidance issued by the state and local authorities. Remember, safety first; your safety, your family's safety and the safety of your neighbors and friends. There is always next year if you work to make sure there is a next year.



What is the risk of COVID-19 infection in horses and livestock (cattle, small ruminants, camelids, swine)?

There have been no documented cases of COVID-19 infection in horses or livestock species, and there is no evidence to date that humans represent a risk of this infection to farm animals. However, there are many coronaviruses of veterinary importance, such as transmissible gastroenteritis virus (TGEV) and porcine respiratory coronavirus of swine, infectious bronchitis virus of poultry and equine and bovine coronavirus. While these are generally very contagious diseases within a group of animals, they are not often transmitted between species and are quite host-restricted.

It could be very upsetting to hear your veterinarian talk about coronavirus in your herd, flock, or barn at any time. Livestock coronavirus diseases represent a very low risk for human infection and disease (**and are not COVID-19**). However, other infectious diseases of livestock are zoonotic, or diseases that can be transmitted between humans and animals. Salmonellosis, brucellosis, ringworm, rabies, tuberculosis, cryptosporidiosis, and Q fever are examples of zoonotic disease. These infections still remain important considerations when interacting with horses and livestock and emphasize the importance of routine biosecurity and rigorous hand hygiene after any contact with animals.

Do horses and livestock represent a COVID-19 infection risk for humans?

Humans are not at risk for passing COVID-19 to their horses or livestock and there is no reason to believe animals can transmit the disease to humans. However, the virus is very contagious between people, and circumstances where animals or their products bring people together can create a real risk of infection and disease during this pandemic. It is important to respect current stay-at-home orders and social distancing guidelines when you must interact with others.

To allow the benefits of interaction with horses and livestock to continue, including maintaining economic production, as well as the social and mental health benefits, practice rigorous hand hygiene during and after visiting farms and make sure you're following these safety tips:

- Stay at least 6 feet away from other people.
- Limit the number of people in the barn at any one time.
- Encourage sick people (boarders, workers, veterinary staff) to stay home. Consider additional restrictions or closure in case of illness or poor compliance with recommendations.
- Clean and disinfect environmental surfaces regularly, and modify barn hours to allow for cleaning.
 - Water, feed buckets
 - Cross ties, lead ropes
 - Tack, halters
 - Grooming supplies
 - Water taps, hoses
 - Stall and door handles
 - Wheelbarrows, shovel and broom handles
 - Doorknobs, light switches, countertops

Ensure availability of hand hygiene materials (soap and water, hand sanitizer)

What preparations should be made for horses and livestock during the pandemic?

Caring for livestock appropriately during this pandemic will ensure the maintenance of a safe, secure, and stable food supply, and ensure the health and well-being of companion and therapy animals that are important for the health and well-being of humans. Disaster preparedness for horses and livestock should include planning for consistent sources of hay, feed, medications, and alternative caretakers if needed. Create your plan now and share it with others who may play a role.

Link to the Ohio State University site

<https://vet.osu.edu/about-us/news/covid-19-and-animals#Risk%20in%20horses%20and%20livestock>

We have all been itching to get out with our horses. From March until just recently, it seems that most if not all horse related events have been cancelled or postponed.

The Northeast has done a reasonably good job of lowering the incidence of infected and/or hospitalized people. The upside to that, is that trail rides and events are again beginning to appear on our calendars. The downside is that it hopefully won't result in an uptick in infections.

Remember what got us here in the first place!

WEAR A MASK
SOCIALLY DISTANCE
WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY
USE HAND SANITIZER



NHHC Annual Meeting 2021

While none of us knows what the future holds, we are exploring the possibility of holding our annual meeting sometime in 2021.

If you have any suggestions about what kind of guest speaker you would like to see, please let us know.

Any other suggestions would be most welcome.

NHHC Newsletter
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The New Hampshire Horse Council (NHHC) is a nonprofit 501(c)5 organization dedicated to the protection and improvement of the horse industry in New Hampshire. The NHHC represents all breeds and disciplines. Through communication, education and leadership we act as a liaison among horse groups, the general public and the legislature.

www.NHHorseCouncil.org

Affiliated Clubs and Sponsors

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Equine Homes

<https://www.equinehomes.com/>

Goin' Broke Farm

<https://www.facebook.com/JollyFarmRoadSuttonNH/>

Granite State Carriage Association

<https://www.granitestatecarriage.org/>

Mares Run Farm

<http://www.maresrunfarm.com>

Monadnock Happy Trails

<http://mhta.yolasite.com/>

New Hampshire Arabian Horse Association

<http://www.nharab.org/>

New Hampshire Farm Bureau

<https://nhfarmbureau.org/>

New Hampshire Horse & Trail Association

<http://nhhta.org/>

Pemiquaney Riding Club

<https://www.prcride4reason.com/>

Piscataquog Area Trailways

<http://piscataquogareatrailways.com/>

Rockaway Farm

<https://www.facebook.com/rockawayhorsefarm/>

Rockingham Riding Club

<http://nhrockinghamridingclub.org/>

UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center

<https://www.upreachtec.org/>

Warrior Friesians

www.warriorfriesians.com

Wentworth Hunt

<http://www.wentworthhunt.org/>