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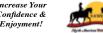




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Happy Thanksgiving!

#### **Quick Fall Checklist**

By The VHN Writing Team



Fall is officially here, and that means that the temperatures will be changing soon as winter approaches. Just as we prepare our horses for summer in the spring, now is the time to prepare your horse for the change of the season and all that it brings.

Here is a quick fall checklist to keep your horse buddy happy and healthy:

- 1. Review feeding needs for cooler weather
- 2. Establish a good deworming schedule
- 3. Consider a routine vet check up
- 4. Make sure shots/vaccinations are up to date
- 5. Break out the blankets and check their condition
- 6. Prepare warm weather materials for storage
- 7. Wash blankets, sheets, and saddle pads
- 8. Check expiration dates on food and medications
- 9. Prepare pipes and water sources for the cold
- 10. Break out the colder weather gear for yourself
- 11. Monitor very young or older horses for the transition
- 12. Establish a new exercise regimen
- 13. Prepare at risk horses for colder conditions, like those that suffer from laminitis or specific ailments
- 14. Check property for any maintenance
- 15. Clear away dead foliage as the season shifts
- 16. Check for any stall damage
- 17. Weatherproof barn and feed storage areas
- 18. Buy any new tack and supplies early and on sale summer items





Codi A. Kern

Owner, Editor Artist 702-808-7669

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Hello! And welcome to the Newspaper! I am so glad you decided to pick us up for a read! Be sure to check out our exciting, historical, and informative articles, as well as our wonderful advertisers. We update every month with new information selected especially for our readers enjoyment! Be sure to follow along with us each edition, and feel free to e-mail any comments, questions, or suggestions for material you would like to see right here in these pages.

See you next time! - Codi Kern

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#### Signs Your Horse Needs a Dental Checkup

By The VHN Writing Team

Ideally, your horse should be getting his teeth checked once a year. Just as we humans are meant to go to the dentist once or twice a year for a thorough cleaning and inspection, so are our horses. Do we tend to avoid or skip these visits entirely? Yes, we're all guilty of missing a cleaning... or two... or three. But for our animals, we have to have more dedication to their routine care. This is meant to be a preventative measure that combats any problems at the start before a serious issue comes up.

But as we all know, our horses can be talented when developing issues with just about any part of their body, including their mouth and teeth. Even if your horse has seen an equine dentist in the last month or two, it's entirely possible for a problem to pop up from an injury or illness.

As with any other pain our horses present, mouth and tooth pain can be difficult to decipher. Our horses can't tell us what hurts and how long it's been hurting. They can't point to an area or rate their pain on a scale of one to ten. That leaves us owners with the job of deciphering our horses every day behaviors and deciding if something seems off.

Luckily, there are some common ways our horses will present with mouth or tooth issues.

- 1. Quidding or Spitting Out Hay If you've ever had a cavity, painful gum, or other dental problem, chances are you had trouble or were reluctant to eat. This extends to our horses. If a horse seems to be spitting out chunks of hay while eating, it most likely means he has a mouth issue. These chunks will be partially or completely chewed, but by spitting them out over and over again, your horse will start to lose out on important nutrition. By doing this, it signals that something in there isn't functioning like it should, whether it's a bad tooth, a gap, painful gum or sore, or even a tongue problem. Quidding is a big sign that something in your horse's mouth health and functioning is lacking.
- 2. Fussing or Refusing the Bit Now, it is a possibility that this is a training issue. Which makes figuring out the reason for the fussing or refusing tricky. Yes, a horse can do this behavior if they simply develop a bad habit before a ride. But this is also a very common behavior when something just hurts. If you had a tooth or other mouth problem, you wouldn't want a piece of metal tugging around in their either. This extends to odd mouth behaviors even if your horse takes the bit but continues to react negatively to it during activities. If your horse doesn't want the bit or doesn't react like he usually does, keep an open mind to the chance that he could have an oral health problem.
- 3. Slow Eating This behavior might seem unnecessary on this list. A lot of horses gobble their food, and then there are plenty that will slowly eat their feed. What does it matter how long it takes, as long as he eats what he's supposed to, right? It's not so simple as that. If your horse takes a long time to finish his hay, or suddenly takes much longer than he used to, it might not be a case of being full or over feeding. It could be that it's uncomfortable to eat, so he has to slow down to be able to do so as carefully and comfortably as possible. This is especially true if your horse starts leaving food in his bin or bag and doesn't come back to finish it. A horse that typically eats everything shouldn't suddenly leave food behind.
- 4. Messy Eating and Spilling Some horses are just piggies. They're messy and don't care who knows it. There are lots of horses that almost seem to take pleasure in flinging hay and grain all over the place as they happily gobble away at their meals. There are times however, where a horse is randomly messy with his food. If you've given your horse a bucket of grain or pellets and he seems to spill a lot of it as he takes bites, there could be something else going on. Yes, he might come back to the fallen feed later, but if he seems to spill and drop more than he is eating with each bite, he might be having oral pain as he tries to feed himself. Almost like taking a bite of an apple but having to stop or spit it out before chewing because it just hurts too much.
- 5. Bad Odor Our horses don't exactly smell like a bunch of roses, even if they've just had a bath or been sprayed with coat conditioner. There's a reason that "barn smell" is so easily distinguishable and a lot of us don't mind it or even find comfort in it, however stinky it is to other people. But if you find that your horse's normal hay breath smells particularly icky or rancid, it's likely he's got a dental issue. And that issue probably involves an infection.

- 6. Drooling It can be a pretty funny sight when you come to the barn and see not only a peacefully sleeping horse but one with a little string of drool hanging from a floppy lip. A relaxed horse with a floppy, drooling lip is similar to a little, giggling baby in the horse world as far as cuteness goes. There's also the drooling hungry horses that are about to get their feed or a treat, or maybe just consumed a juicy apple with lots of mushy satisfaction. But a horse that drools routinely can signal an issue in the mouth. Extra saliva can be the result of not just hunger but also of pain or debris in your horse's mouth.
- 7. Head Shy or Head Tossing Similar to humans, if something hurts on your horse's body, including their mouth, the last thing they want is for that area to be touched. If your horse's mouth is out of sorts, chances are he will be very head shy or might toss his head as a reaction to the discomfort. This can sometimes be construed as a behavior issue or bad habit, but just as above with bit refusal, it's important to consider all reasons for an atypical reaction from your horse.





#### Happy Trails Monthly Recipe

Created by Chef Sharon Hauht

#### "Shrimp and Grits"

**Total Time: 45 min Servings: 4 servings** 

#### **Ingredients:**

3/4 cup grits

1/4 teaspoon salt

6 ounces Cheddar cheese, grated

3 tablespoons butter

4 tablespoons butter

3/4 cup chopped onion

1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper

2 garlic cloves, minced

1 cup diced ripe tomatoes with a little of their juice (chopped canned tomatoes are preferable to less-thanperfect fresh tomatoes)

1/2 teaspoon dried thyme

1 tablespoon flour

1 pound medium to large raw shrimp, shelled (reserve shells for stock)

1/2 to 1 cup shrimp stock (see note)

1 tablespoon tomato paste

1/3 cup heavy cream

2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

2 dashes Tabasco

Salt to taste

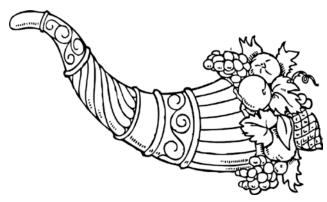
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

#### **Directions:**

For the grits, bring 3 1/2 cups water to a boil and stir in the grits. Reduce heat to low, cover and cook for 15 to 20 minutes, until the grits are tender and the liquid has been absorbed. Remove from heat, add the salt, cheese and butter and stir until melted. Keep warm.

For the shrimp, melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat and sauté the onion, pepper and garlic until softened, about 3 minutes. Add the tomatoes and juice and thyme; bring to a simmer. Cook for 2 or 3 minutes. Sprinkle with flour and stir well. Add the shrimp and stir constantly until they begin to turn pink, about 2 minutes. Add 1/2 cup stock and cook for 2 to 3 minutes more. Add the tomato paste and stir until blended. Add the cream, Worcestershire and Tabasco and more stock if needed to make a spoonable sauce that generously coats the shrimp. Heat thoroughly, being careful not to let it come to a boil. Taste for salt

Place a portion of grits in the center of each plate and spoon shrimp over or around it. Sprinkle with parsley.



Find us on Facebook and more above!

### About Happy Trails Kitchen



Sharon Hauht is the owner of Happy Trails Kitchen that specializes in baking and artfully decorated custom celebration cakes, cupcakes, cookies and sugar art for your special occasion. Sharon is an award winning cake decorator who has more than 40 years experience. Sharon competed with her team, Gouly Goblins, on Season 10 of Food Network's Halloween Wars and was featured on the Road to Halloween Wars, which aired on September 13, 2020.

Happy Trails Kitchen (HTK) is registered by the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) as a cottage food operation, which means HTK's food labels have been approved by SNHD, applicable recipes have been lab-tested for shelf stability (pH and water activity), and Sharon Hauht has been approved to bake and decorate cakes out of her home. She can print edible images (logos and Photographs) on your confections. She has her food handler's card for food safety.

You can see pictures of some of her recent projects on her website: www.happytrailskitchen.com. You can contact Sharon through her website or by emailing her at happytrailskitchen@gmail.com or call (702) 277-8000. HTK is also on Facebook and Instagram under HappyTrailsKitchen.



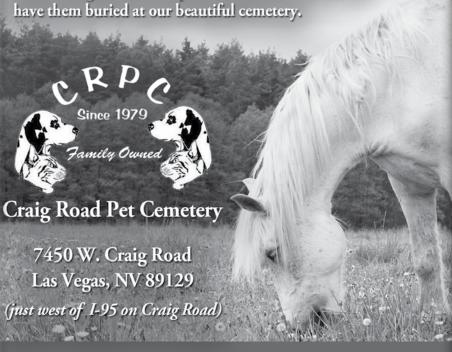
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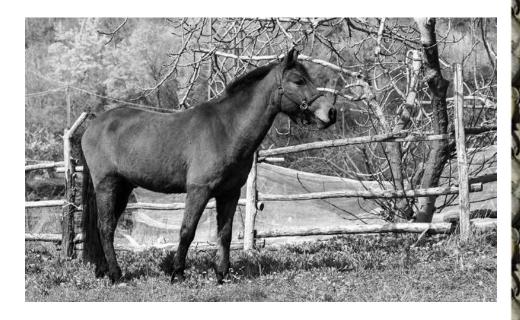
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#### **Choosing the Best Fencing for Your Horse**

By The VHN Writing Team



Sometimes making decisions for our equines feels like a toss of a coin or even better, a shake of a magic 8 ball.

"Do I invest in a new saddle?" Magic 8 ball says: "Outlook good."

"Should I get another horse?" Magic 8 ball says: "Without a doubt."

"Is my horse going to like this new treat flavor?" Magic 8 ball says: "Don't count on it."

"Will my husband survive another horse investment?" Magic 8 ball says: "Concentrate and ask again."

So fate might not be so forthcoming with the answers of the universe, but luckily there are some things you can feel better about when making decisions for your horse's safety and wellbeing. And you won't need a magic 8 ball to sort through the possibilities. When it comes to deciding on the best fencing for your equine, there are some elements to consider that can make the decision a clearer one.

First off, there are a couple fencing types that horse owners will always say no to for safety reasons: barbed wire and large spaced mesh fencing.

Barbed wire is a huge recipe for disaster, for obvious reasons, and any mesh fencing with large gaps is asking for your horse to get caught up with a pulled shoe or worse.

If you are considering doing a DIY fence for your horse's stall, run, or pasture, make sure that you are knowledgeable about how to do it. There are many factors that come into play when buying the materials and installing the fencing on your own. Things like budget, material quality, terrain, aesthetic, and the maintenance upkeep will all matter when you have to find things yourself. If you're not 100% confident when doing it on your own, consider hiring someone that can explain your options and what you can expect.

**Wooden fencing:** This type of fencing can be good. They're fairly sturdy and visible, can look aesthetically pleasing too. But they require care to keep long term especially depending on your climate, are more costly to install, and can be a magnet for horse teeth and chewing. Other pests can wreak havoc on wood as well and replacing a giant beam of wood nestled deep in the ground is tricky and time consuming.

**PVC fencing:** This type of fencing has that super clean and ideal pasture border look. It will always look nice around a green pasture. It is an expensive material however and will break under pressure.

Horses are hard on, well, just about everything they can get ahold of, so depending on what it's used for, it may need to be replaced often. If you want to use PVC, you might consider using an electric fence to teach your horses to stay off of the PVC so it lasts.

Wire fencing (with another material for beams): Wire and mesh type fencing is more cost effective, but it can be difficult to see by itself, so using another type of beam between each section and on top will make it more visible. Wire will also bend when kicked and leaned on. There is V-mesh wire, which is the most expensive wire fencing, but is also considered one of the safest because of the pattern.

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**Electric fencing:** Mentioned with other types of fencing above, electric fencing is fairly inexpensive and can be used together with other methods to achieve aesthetically pleasing fencing that's still doing it's job. Most horses are smart and will understand that this fencing really does mean "no touchy."

**Pipe fencing:** Metal pipe fencing has the benefit of being very sturdy and will hold up to some tough wear from your horses. It also less forgiving should a horse hit it or run into it, so keep that in mind. It's also very heavy, which means installation can be expensive. Modifications are also more difficult because of how thick and sturdy it is. This will last a long time if taken care of properly.

When deciding on fencing type and installation, consider these things:

- 1. Wire strands and barbed wire will slice up a horse very easily, leading to bad injuries or worse.
- 2. Rotting posts and boards need to be avoided as they will give way.
- 3. Keep horses away from materials that are more for looks and aesthetic or can be moved over time by being leaned on.
- 4. Consider what the fence is being used for, like a run off a stall, an arena, a pasture, etc.
- 5. Also consider what kind of equine is going inside of the fencing, like a draft horse, a mini donkey, a horse that likes to chew, etc.
- 6. Metal posts without any caps can take off slices and chunks from your horse's body. Any supports that you use that may be sharp need to be accounted for or not used at all.
- 7. Don't make the mistake of using too short of a fence. You'd be surprised how many horse owners have stories of their equines making a jump for it and clearing the fence to run down the road.
- 8. Failed electric fencing will only work for a limited time, as in, at one point or another your horses will figure out that that piece of wire won't shock them anymore and then it's free reign.
- 9. If you can't see it very well, then your horse can't either.
- 10. When in doubt, seek a professional. Your fence will last longer, stay looking nice, and do its job.

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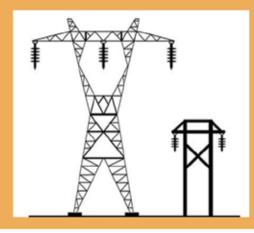


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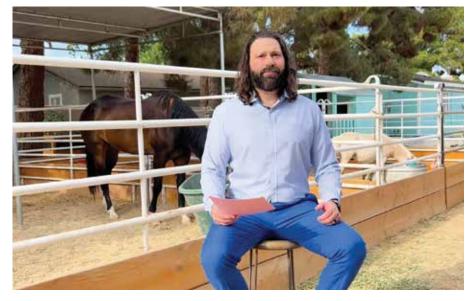




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#### **Top Signs of Insulin Resistance**

By The VHN Writing Team

There are many ailments in horses that are becoming more and more prevalent in the community. The issue of insulin resistance is one of those ailments that appears to be on the rise in horse populations and chances are as a horse owner, your horse may have the condition or you may know another horse or two that is dealing with it.

To put it simply, insulin resistance is when a horse's body fails to properly respond to the hormone insulin. Having an impaired insulin response is the main problem with the broader equine medical condition known as Equine Metabolic Syndrome or EMS. Horses with this syndrome cannot metabolize sugar properly and will have difficulty losing weight.

A veterinarian can better describe the process to you if your horse is suffering from these two problems. But how can you begin to tell that your horse has an insulin issue?

Here are the biggest signs of insulin resistance in horses:

- 1. Your horse is overweight or considered to be obese. If your horse is overweight, it doesn't necessarily mean that they have an insulin processing problem. It could mean they just need a diet adjustment or an exercise adjustment. Horses can absolutely be chunky monkeys without a medical issue. But if your horse is overweight or if they are considered to actually be obese and you can't seem to remedy the problem with or without a vet, then insulin resistance should be considered.
- 2. Excessive thirst, drinking, and urinating. Your horse should be drinking enough water each day as it's a key component of their health and well-being. But if your horse drinks a lot and continues to be thirsty without exercise or a temperature increase, there could be a problem. This is particularly true as well if your horse constantly pees. For horses that routinely drink much more than others and have to pee a lot, it's worth looking at insulin resistance as the culprit.
- 3. Odd fat deposits along their body. Our horses are meant to accumulate a certain level of fat in combination with muscle conformation. This is all part of their body score. But if your horse seems to gather chunks of fat in areas like their neck (a cresty neck), their ribs, topline, around their eyes, and at the base of their tale, this could point to an insulin issue.
- 4. Increased hunger. Like excessive thirst, horses with insulin resistance tend to be hungrier than healthy horses. This is because their bodies can be resistant to the hormone Leptin, which regulates hunger. If your horse is constantly hungry and gobbles their food at crazy rates, you should watch for other signs and symptoms of the insulin condition.
- 5. The development of laminitis. Horses that are insulin intolerant can easily develop laminitis, which is the inflammation of the hoof laminae. These are the structures that attach the wall of the hoof to the coffin bone. If your horse has developed laminitis, your vet will likely check to see if they are suffering from insulin intolerance and EMS.

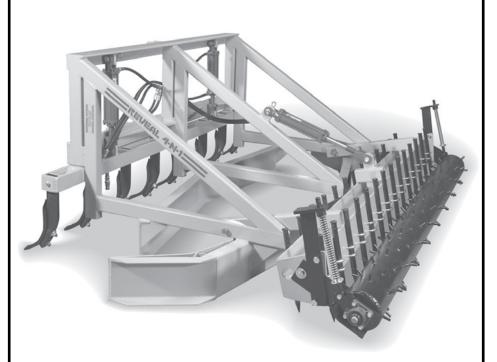


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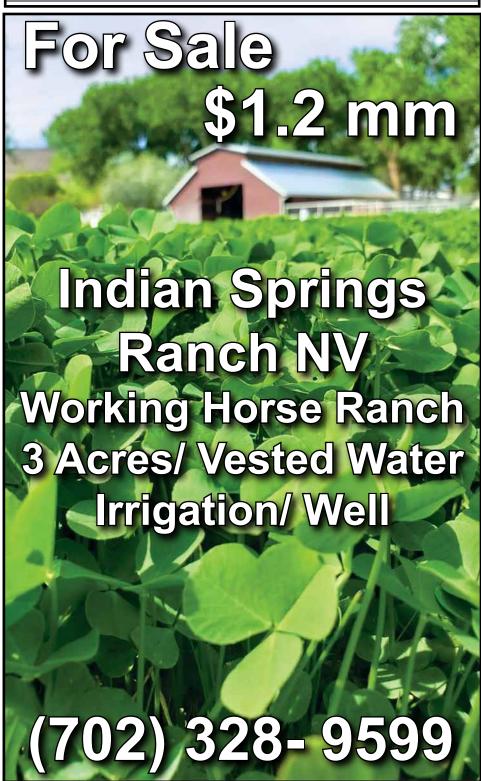
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#### **Thanksgiving Gratitude to the Horses**

By The VHN Writing Team



In editions past we have discussed the different possibilities of what our horses could be thankful for as the Thanksgiving holiday approaches. There are plenty of things we have mentioned, like a good grooming session, a never-ending pile of treats, or a simple visit out of the blue from us for scratches.

We know our horses depend on us, love us, and yes, they are grateful for us and the care we provide them, though they can't quite tell us in so many words. They need us, plain and simple.

But what if we turn the tables and request the same idea of possibilities from owners?

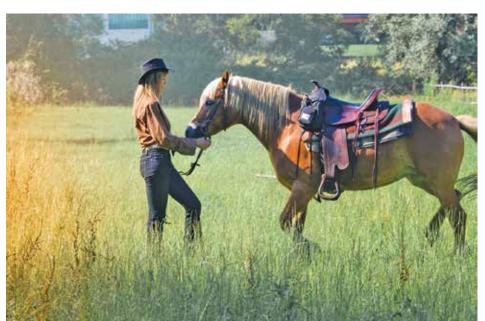
What are we owners thankful for when it comes to our equines?

Well, for starters...

We are thankful and grateful to our equines for their own devotion to us. When the day is done, the treats and meals have been fed, the poo has been picked up, and the light starts to fade, they are always there with a familiar face and a quiet, yet knowing presence. And it's a presence that we may take for granted at times. But the calm reassurance and silent devotion of our equines both big and small is something to be thankful for each and every day.

We can also be thankful for the muck and the mess. Yes, you read that right. We should be thankful for our horses' mess that we dutifully tend to each day. It not only keeps us active and healthy, but most importantly it keeps us humble. Just when you might be getting a bit too big of a head for whatever reason, you'll get a water bucket full of hay or poop, you'll get slimed by a good horse sneeze, or maybe your horse will fart right in your hair or face as you pick their feet out.

It's not out of insult or malice that this is done, though our horses must get a chuckle out of our short lived chagrin. No, it's done because that's what animals do, and we, as their keepers are responsible for every aspect of their care. It's a wonderful way of reminding us that we are human, we are down to earth, and we are equal in the blood, sweat, tears, and wonderfully poignant messiness that is life with all its ups and downs.



We should be thankful to our horses for pushing our boundaries and daring us to be better. What's life without the requirement of bravery? Our equines will push us, whether we like it or not, to go beyond what we know and what we can already do. They will force us to be better, to learn, to exceed our current talents and knowledge.

They will ask us time and time again if we can take another step further to be a better rider, a better horse aficionado, and a better person at the same time. We must be thankful for the tests and the trials that only our equines can really impress upon us. We should be thankful to our horses for remaking us. For helping us to grow.

We are thankful for our horses protection and their willingness to do. On each ride, and with each task completed, our horses protect us, guide us, work with us, and answer our requests with eagerness and as partners with a common goal. They truly don't have to, as we can see when they are more reluctant to work or leave the stall. But they continue to answer our calls to action and to do new tasks.



We can be thankful for our horses eyes, that see us as we really, truly are. For our horses ears, that listen more than we think they do. For our horses nose, that remembers our scent and searches for it. For our horses mouth, that awaits us with not just anticipation for food, but for nuzzles and kisses when we need it most. For our horses bodies, full of strength and grace, and the ability to hold us up not just as a job but as a friend and companion.

We must be thankful for our equines for all the ways in which they are essential to us outside of filling a job or earning us money. We must be thankful for our equines love, as it's a love that has no boundaries, limitations, or expirations.

It's both a simple and complex love, that requires much from us yet so very little when it's broken down. And it's a love that cannot even speak with words, yet we know it in all the ways above and more.

This Thanksgiving 2022, we equine owners are thankful for our animals and for all of the things that we can list and all of the things that we can't. And while they can't join us at the dinner table for turkey and a slice of pie, we can still show our thanks to them in each feed, each treat, each grooming, each poo pile tossed, and each scratch and pat given. We can thank them during this holiday and each one here after with silent gestures just as they silently are thankful for us. Happy Thanksgiving, from Valley Horse News.



#### Get Up and Gait!

By Lorraine Zenka



CC: Rocky Mountain Horse, Kersti Nebelsiak Wiki Commons

There are over 40 recognized gaited horse breeds worldwide. In the Las Vegas Valley, the most popular are the Rocky Mountain Horse, Tennessee Walker, and Missouri Foxtrotter. What makes them so special that demand is increasing every year? Let's take a look.

Of course, all horses have gaits. The term "gait" refers to forward movement, a way of going. The four gaits of most horses are walk, trot, canter, and gallop. Naturally *gaited horses* are gifted with *additional* moves. For our Valley favorites, these are the running walk, foxtrot, rack, and pace.

Gaited horses can travel in almost any regular gait, including the trot and canter. Some are used in ranch work, herding, and cutting cattle. Gaited horses can jump, and some do quite well, like Tennessee Walkers. However, honestly, none of the best showjumping or cutting horses are gaited. And you won't find them barrel racing.

So, what's the gaited horses' claim to fame? Gaited horses are top-notch trail horses for beginner to advanced riders, and mature riders who have joint and back pain that would normally make riding impossible. For others, "flashy and different" is the appeal.

Gaited horses have the super-star ability to provide an exceptionally smooth ride over all types of terrain and long distances, at whatever speed the rider chooses. They are reliable, focused, and sure-footed. For those reasons, they're showing up more often at endurance races and cross-country competitions. Locally, you meet them gliding, climbing, and ambling along on trails through the Valley's deserts, mountains, and pine forests.

Here's an example of what makes a gaited horse smoother to ride than a non-gaited horse.

During their special moves gaited horses always have at least one foot on the ground. Compare that to the alternating footfall of a trot: right front and left hind – left front and right hind. At the transition, there's a moment of suspension for all four feet. Then two diagonal feet hit the ground and create the bounce, or bump, that riders try to avoid by posting. The trotting pattern continues, and riders' thighs get a workout - which is not bad. But if you want to ride 5-10 miles on the trails, consider a gaited horse.

As mentioned earlier, many gaited horses will trot, canter, or both, as you can see when they're in turnout or pasture. If you enjoy those gaits, don't worry. Your versatile horse will not lose his natural special gaits. Do, however, get the training for yourself and your steed to understand the cue for each gait so you're both in sync.

Because those "extra" gaits are the result of specific genes, some well-papered Quarter Horses, Arabians, and other breeds might surprise you with a running walk or foxtrot. It happens. Unfortunately, you might not recognize what's happening and fault your horse for doing what comes naturally. Hopefully, you will recognize it, and enjoy it.

PAGE 11 • VALLEY HORSE NEWS • ISSUE 344 • NOVEMBER 2022 The gaits referred to next are hallmarks of at least one of the three breeds that are currently popular in the Las Vegas area.

At the Walk, each of the horse's feet hit the ground individually at regular intervals: left hind – left front – right hind – right front.

The Running Walk has the same footfall pattern as a regular walk, but is much quicker, and the stride is longer. This gait is unique to Tennessee Walkers.

The Rack also has a similar footfall pattern to the walk and speed of the running walk. However, the speed and height at which the front legs are picked up are notable and can be quite flashy.

The Foxtrot is a four-beat broken diagonal gait: left front – right hind – right front – left hind. It's unique to Missouri Foxtrotters.

The Pace is a lateral gait. It goes left front and left hind – right front and right hind alternately move forward. It's significantly faster than a trot. In fact, non-gaited horses usually need to canter to keep up.

Now that you might be wondering if a gaited horse is right for you, here's a bit more information about the popular local breeds:

Missouri Foxtrotters are calm and gentle. Their breed-specific foxtrot looks like their front feet are moving at the walk while their hind legs are trotting. Many mounted police divisions and government agencies use Missouri Foxtrotters because of their reliability, strength, and calm demeanor in the middle of city traffic and riots. In the desert, they're alert but less apt to panic when ATVs and wandering burros are nearby.

Tennessee Walkers were developed specifically so Southern farm and plantation owners could relax in the saddle while covering a lot of ground. The Tennessee Walkers' four-beat running walk is unique to the breed and has the same footfall as a walk – but faster, reaching 10-20 miles per hour. This muscular breed is calm and sure-footed, easy-going, and docile – a friend for life. And with proper care, they can live up to 30 years of age.

The Rocky Mountain Horse is good-natured and enjoys the company of humans. Because of their temperament and gait, they're an excellent choice for elderly and disabled riders, and children. By the way, they're not from the Rocky Mountains; they're from the Appalachian Mountains and were produced by a mix of Spanish horses from the southern US and English horses from the north. They can travel about 7 mph over rough terrain and up to 16 mph on smooth ground. They were developed for routine use on Kentucky farms, pulling plows and buggies. The breed has reserves of stamina and a willingness to work. Today they're still used for working cattle, endurance racing, and pleasure riding.

As far as tack and shoes are concerned, relax. A gaited horse's skeleton and muscle structure are the same as any horse and so it doesn't need a special saddle. One that fits properly is all that's important. Likewise, a simple bit is best, as it would be for any horse. Shoeing is not breed-specific. A good farrier will consider any horse's gaits, movement, confirmation, and natural angles when shoeing.

Now put aside any preconceived notions you might still have and get up and gait!

The Rocky Mountain Horse, Tennessee Walker, and Missouri Foxtrotter are now being joined by a newcomer. The gaited Icelandic Horse has made its way halfway around the world to the Las Vegas desert. **Read about the Icelandic Horses' fascinating history and modern popularity in the December issue of Valley Horse News.** 



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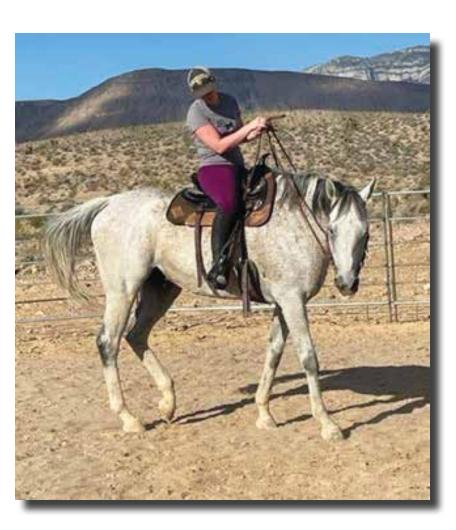
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#### Water Temperature and Drinking Frequency Study

By The VHN Writing Team

Hydration is a vital part of a horse's health. It's a given that at any time of year, whether hot or cold, a horse should have access to water around the clock. Horses can drink anywhere from 6 - 18 gallons of water a day depending on the weather, horse size, and workload.

That's a lot of liquid in a 24 hour period. The last time you filled up your horse's water bucket or watched him drink from an automatic waterer, did you wonder if he had a preference for water temperature?

If you think about human water preferences, we generally like our water to be cold or at least room temperature when we are thirsty. It might lead to a bit of a brain freeze, but cold water is refreshing especially in the summer.

So, what about our equines? Does temperature play a role in how much our horses drink?

Studies are starting to show that it does.

Scientists have run tests to compare how much horses will drink when given the decision between warm water and cold water in varying circumstances. The warm water was heated on site and the cold water was a natural, flowing spring. The results of the preliminary tests were surprising.

When given a choice between warm water and cold water, horses would go and drink the cold water instead. However, when scientists removed the option of the cold water to see how much horses would drink of the warm water when they had no other choice, the horses gave some odd results.

They drank more of the warm water by volume than the cold when only the warm was available.

That is to say, while the horses chose the cold water over the warm water when they had the choice, they still ended up drinking more warm water overall than the cold when it wasn't an option.

These strange results raise some questions about why horses would inherently choose the cold water over warm, yet drink much more of the warm water in the second study. The scientists guessed at a few possibilities.

- 1. Drinking the cold water was an instinct. The cold water was a natural source, meaning that it was the freshest and the least likely to have any contaminants.
- 2. The warm water is less satisfying in comparison and less likely to quench thirst.
- 3. While the cold water is more satisfying, the warm water is easier on the stomach when drank in larger amounts.

It's impossible to say for sure what the logic is behind the decision without more specific studies to rule out the different postulations.

But the results did show one thing: if you want your horse to drink more water in the winter, provide only warm water with no competing cold water source.

As with any change to your horse's routine, a vet's approval is a good idea. Some horses may not take to the change well if you should decide to try warm water in the winter.

You can always test the temperature change to see how your horse reacts, whether for a long term possibility or just out of curiosity.

It's more likely that your horse will drink a greater volume of the warm water if it's the only available source during the cold months, which tend to be the time when thirst isn't as predominant for horses.

If your horse has trouble staying hydrated during the wintertime because of lack of thirst or sensitivities, the warm water might be easier on his system and palate.

What do you think of the study? Have you tried giving your horse more temperate water?

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#### **Press Release:**

### **Breaking - New House Bill Aims to Protect** and **Preserve Wild Horses**

Americanwildhorsecampaign.org

Washington, DC (October 7, 2022) — Today, the nation's leading wild horse protection organization, the American Wild Horse Campaign (AWHC) and the Animal Welfare Institute applauds the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Raúl Grijalva (D, AZ-03) and U.S. Representatives David Schweikert (R, AZ-06), Joe Neguse (D, CO-02), Steve Cohen (D, TN-09), Dina Titus (D, NV-01), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R, PA-01) for introducing a comprehensive bipartisan bill, the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Protection Act of 2022, which will protect wild horses and burros from slaughter, prioritize their humane management, restore western habitat, promote partnerships with American veterans and nonprofit organizations, and increase transparency within the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service's (USFS) Wild Horse and Burro Programs. The bill contains the most effective and commonsense reforms seen in years.

"We commend Chairman Grijalva and U.S. Reps. Schweikert, Neguse, Cohen, Titus, and Fitzpatrick for introducing bipartisan legislation that sets forth a better way to manage our nation's wild horses and burros," said Suzanne Roy, executive director for AWHC.

"This bill promotes much-needed humane, commonsense, and fiscally responsible reforms that would stop the endless cycle of removals and keep these beloved symbols of freedom in the wild where they belong."

"More than 50 years ago, Congress unanimously passed the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act to preserve America's iconic mustangs. Unfortunately, over the years, the federal government has fallen far short of its mandate to protect horses from harassment and death," said Cathy Liss, president of the Animal Welfare Institute.

"The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Protection Act of 2022 represents a long overdue upgrade to the law so that wild horses and burros can be managed humanely in their natural habitats for Americans to enjoy. We applaud Chairman Grijalva, along with Reps. Schweikert, Titus, Fitzpatrick, Cohen, and Neguse for their foresight and vision; this comprehensive bill will deliver meaningful change for how our herds are managed and promote real transparency and accountability for a federal program that has cost taxpayers billions."

"Wild horses and burros are American icons and an irreplaceable part of our nation's landscape," said Chairman Raúl Grijalva. "These special creatures deserve federal protections that recognize their importance and ensure they are treated humanely. I'm grateful to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working together to craft modern-day solutions that keep wild horses and burros on the range."

"This legislation is about more than just saving these incredible creatures who roam free today, it's about ensuring the great wild horses and burros of Arizona and America live on for generations to come," said Congressman David Schweikert (R-Ariz). "I'm proud to work on this bipartisan bill with my colleagues to secure protections for these important and threatened animals."

"Coloradans are uniquely aware of the vital role of wild horses and burros in the American West. We must update protections enacted decades ago to better reflect current herd-management needs and ensure the ethical and humane treatment of these animals," said Congressman Joe Neguse (D-Colo).

"America's wild horses and burros are majestic icons of our country and deserve protection to ensure their health and vibrancy," said Congressman Steve Cohen (D-Tenn). "This legislation will modernize the 50-year-old protections and provide the Bureau of Land Management meaningful requirements to ensure the animals are safe in their environment."

"Nevada is home to the largest population of wild horses in the nation and I have seen time and time again how they continue to be endangered, both during roundups and after they have been removed from the land," said Congresswoman Dina Titus (D-Nev). "This bill will ensure that these creatures are treated with respect and care. I will continue to fight for animal welfare and the protection of these iconic denizens of the Wild West."

"It is crucial that we continue to provide federal resources and ensure the protection of our nation's wild horses," said Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-Penn). "I am proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation which will reform management techniques and accountability measures with regard to the sensible, humane treatment of wild equines."

The BLM and USFS are the federal government agencies charged with managing America's wild horses and burros that inhabit public lands in 10 western states, but the programs have been fraught with controversy for years. Wild horses and burros are federally protected under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, which sought to protect and preserve these animals, but the law has been significantly weakened by amendments over the years, deviating from the intent of the 1971 Act.

Among numerous other reforms, the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Protection Act of 2022 aims to repeal the Burns Amendment, a 2004 amendment introduced by former Senator Conrad Burns that allows for sale of wild equines "without limitation" on slaughter. While a prohibition on the commercial destruction of wild horse and burro slaughter is currently in place, this ban must be renewed by Congress each year through the Appropriations process — presenting a yearly challenge subject to the whim of politics.

More so, an AWHC 22-month investigative report into the BLM's Adoption Incentive Program shows that since 2019, at least 1,020 animals removed from federal rangelands and adopted into private care were funneled into the slaughter pipeline. The bill would prohibit the use of cash incentives—eliminating the financial motivation of individuals who are looking to defraud the government—while still allowing other types of incentives that would benefit adopters and animals alike, such as vouchers for veterinary care.

Currently, there are nearly 64,000 wild horses and burros living in government holding facilities in the U.S., utilizing the vast majority of the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program budget each year, with removals and holding costing \$93 million in FY2022. According to AWHC, the BLM system simply cannot safely hold the thousands of additional wild horses that the agency intends to capture this year. Meanwhile, the agency's holding facilities have been associated with mass preventable deaths and widespread animal welfare violations such as inadequate vaccinations, inadequate access to hay, and understaffing. This year in Cañon City, Colorado, nearly 150 horses died due to lack of proper vaccinations. The bill would help make deadly disease outbreaks like this one a thing of the past.

The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Protection Act of 2022 Act is part of a solution to many problems afflicting the Wild Horse and Burro Programs. The bill would:

- Protect wild horses and burros from slaughter, repeal the Burns Amendment, and eliminate killing as a method of population management.
- End the cash incentives for adoption; the cash incentive attracts nefarious horse buyers that often send horses into the slaughter pipeline.
- Prioritize on-range management options, such as fertility control and relocation, which would end the cycle of removing these animals from their habitat and confining them in holding facilities.
- Encourage partnerships with military veterans and non-governmental organizations.
- Prioritize humane management of wild horses by requiring more humane, passive gather techniques when removals are required.
- Increase transparency and accountability in the Wild Horse and Burro Programs by:

Requiring detailed public reporting of deaths or injuries of wild horses and burros during capture operations and posting public notice before removals occur.

- Strengthening the Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program (CAWP) guidelines and making these enforceable through regulations.
- Create self-sustaining wild populations, protect wildlife, and achieve true ecological balance within habitat areas.

About the American Wild Horse Campaign: The American Wild Horse Campaign (AWHC) is the nation's leading wild horse protection organization, with more than 700,000 supporters and followers nationwide. AWHC is dedicated to preserving the American wild horse and burros in viable, free-roaming herds for generations to come, as part of our national heritage. In addition to advocating for the protection and preservation of America's wild herds, AWHC implements the largest wild horse fertility control program in the world through a partnership with the State of Nevada for wild horses that live in the Virginia Range near Reno.

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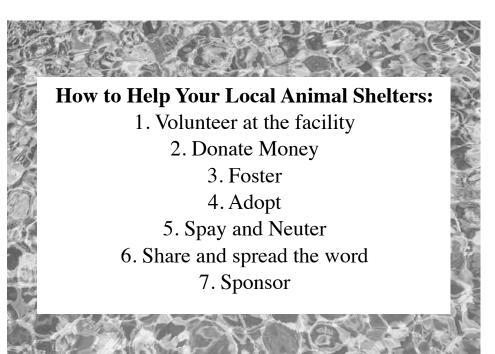
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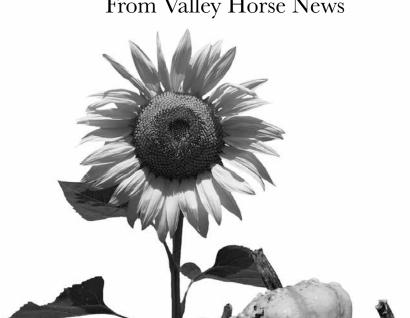
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long as they need it!



#### Welcome all rescues, sanctuaries, and non-profits!

Now is the chance to give farm animals in need of adopting and fostering an extra spotlight - **on the house**.

Valley Horse News will now have an adoptions section solely for farm animals at shelters and organizations that need to find a loving, forever home. On this page, every month, you will find photos and information about wonderful animals that could be the perfect addition to your home or farm. You will also find the organization that they come from and how you can get in contact.

This section will remain in the paper *indefinitely*.

As long as there is an animal that needs it, it will be open for listings. With COVID on the decline many animals are in need of new homes, so here will be the space to feature them.

Are you an organization or know of an organization that helps farm animals? Contact now for more information and to be featured on this page every month. Remember, this page is for **adoptions only**.

Animals for sale by owner must be advertised in other sections.

Please spread the word far and wide about this section so we can facilitate as many adoptions as possible. These precious animals need and deserve all the help we can get. It is a personal goal to make this section explode every single month! A home for every animal that comes on this page is not only a worthwhile but completely possible goal.

Just imagine what could be done by this time next year. So let's make it happen!

Have questions? Email us at valleyhorsenews@gmail.com or call 702-808-7669

We will provide all of the information you need and answer any inquiries you may have.





### Terri Gamboa Team

#1 in Acreage Properties
in Las Vegas



**Cindy Parker 702-528-1048** 

**Sommer McDaniel 702-370-2404** 

~ LAND in NW, PAHRUMP, LOGANDALE ~

**Terri Gamboa** 702-528-5473







4335 N Fort Apache Rd. 1/2 Acre Lot in Private 4 Lot Cul-de-Sac. Block Wall Perimeter & Can Be Gated. Blocks From Lone Mountain Regional Park \$274,000







1341 East Nevada Highway 372. 1.03 Acres Commercially Zoned in Pahrump. Great Location Right by NV State Rd 160 & Stores. 1 Hour From Las Vegas \$249K







15 Acre Moapa Valley Blvd. Own 15 Acres of Prime Land in Logandale. Rural Living 50 Minutes From Las Vegas. Beautiful Area. 2 Parcels Sold Together \$599,000







2161 W Charleston Park Ave. 4+ Acres of land in Pahrump, 1 hour from Vegas. Nice quite location w/ mountain views. Corner lot. Zoned for multi-use. \$89K

#### **Excellent Land Lenders - 80% Financing!!**



Call Terri Gamboa (702) 528-5473





Website: www.TerriGamboa.com





### **Terri Gamboa Team**

#1 Horse Property Specialists

in Las Vegas



**Cindy Parker 702-528-1048** 

Sommer McDaniel - SW, Henderson, Cold Creek, Sandy Valley - 702-370-2404

Terri Gamboa 702-528-5473







7111 S Valley View Blvd. Over 1/2 Acre Fantastic Horse Property.7 Stall, giant breezeway brick barn, Tack, Arena. 3 Bed + Den/Office Ranch-Style House, Completely Move in Ready \$799,000







712 Fife St. Equestrian Property with all Horse Amenities, 3,097sq ft 3 Bed + Den & extra office space. Pool. 5 Stalls, Arena, Tack, Trail riding right from property \$995,000







97 Hidden Lake Ave. Incredible cold creek prop. Solar, dual gens, propane & wb stoves - completely off grid, 81 acre lot. 2,406SQFT / 3 bed + den. 360 views of mtns, valley, lake & ponds, trail riding. 40 min from Vegas \$749,000







3110 Winnebago St. 2 Homesteads. 4 Acres. Very Private Oasis in the Desert! 2 Wells/2 Septics/4 Manu. Homes. Large Covered Horse Stalls, Large Arena \$400,000

Call the #1 Horse Property TEAM to list your property here!
Call us to find your DREAM Horse Property!!



Call Terri Gamboa (702) 528-5473





Website: www.TerriGamboa.com





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#1 in Luxury Homes on Acreage in Las Vegas



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**Sommer McDaniel 702-370-2404** 

~ SE & NW Las Vegas ~

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6743 S Pecos Rd. Private Compound W/ Gates. Circular Driveway & 10' High Walls. Home + Casita 4,148sqft, 4 Bed/5 Bath. All Beds Have Own Bath. Open Floor Plan, Vaulted Ceilings, Travertine Floors. \$2,888,888







3764 Pama Lane. Gorgeous Luxury Equestrian Estate. 1.39 Acre Gated W/ Private Well, Pasture, 4 Stall Barn, Tack Room, Arena W/ Sprinklers, Casita & Pool \$1,490,000







7080 S Pecos Rd. 3.9 Acre Secluded Prop., 2 bed/ 2 bath house to live in while build then as guest house. 10 car garage converted horse barn, electric gate, 100 tall pine trees \$1,975,000

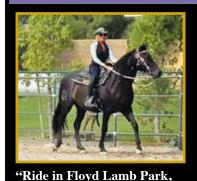






6185 Elkhorn Rd. 1 Acre Horse Property w/ 3 Bed/2 Bath Ranch Home. Income Producing Potential w/ Horse Amenities and Detached Storage Room/Tack Shop. Near FLP. \$895,000

Floyd Lamb Park - 1,500 Acres - NEW TRAILS - Best Ride in Town! \*\*\*GREEN ROLLING HILLS, PONDS, BIG TREES, TRAILS!!\*\*\*



approx. 2,000 acres, best ride in town!

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