COVID-19 Resources for Equine Businesses, Non-Profits and Owners

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has gathered the following information and resources to assist commercial boarding facilities, riding stables, equine non-profits and private horse owners who may be experiencing difficulty during the COVID-19 crisis.

**General Equine COVID-19 Resources**

- [https://blog.extension.uconn.edu/covid-19-resources/#all](https://blog.extension.uconn.edu/covid-19-resources/#all) – See Equine Business Guidelines
- American Horse Council: [https://www.horsecouncil.org/covid-19-resources/](https://www.horsecouncil.org/covid-19-resources/)
- United Horse Coalition: [https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/covid-19-resources/](https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/covid-19-resources/)
- Options for Owners Who Need Assistance: [https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/resource-database/resources-for-owners/](https://unitedhorsecoalition.org/resource-database/resources-for-owners/)
- Extension Horses
- American Association of Equine Practitioners: COVID-19 recommendations for client and staff safety

**Feed/Hay Assistance**

- National Equine Evacuation Directory: Searchable database of individuals offering assistance with evacuation, trailering, stabling, search and rescue and hay/supply banks.
- Fleet of Angels: For private horse owners and non-profits. Emergency hay micro-grants.
- Sumner Brook Farm Equine Rescue and Retirement: Guardian Care Program to serve people who may be facing temporary hardship, illness, military deployment, temporary loss of income or other circumstances.

**Hay, Feed, Bedding Suppliers**

- Kuss Farms, Bethlehem, CT, 203-910-9596
- Pleasant View Farm, Somers, CT, 860-698-2388
- R&R Farm Transport, Richard Paley, Columbia, CT 860-638-8859
- Sweet Farms, Voluntown, CT, 860-303-6224

**Equine Welfare Network**

- All The Kings Horses Equine Rescue, Inc, NORTHFORD, CT
- Animal Assisted Therapy Services, Inc., West Haven, CT
- Beech Brook Farm Inc., Mystic, CT
- Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue, East Hampton, CT
- Foxfield F.A.R.M. Corporation, GRANBY, CT
- *H.O.R.S.E. of CT, Inc., Washington, CT (2019)*
- Hidden Acres Therapeutic Riding Center, Naugatuck, CT
- *High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc., Old Lyme, CT (2019)*
- *Little Britches Therapeutic Riding, Woodbury, CT (2019)*
- *Manes & Motions Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc., Middletown, CT (2019)*
- *Mitchell Farm Equine Retirement, Inc., Salem, CT (2019)*
- *New Canaan Mounted Troop, Inc., New Canaan, CT (2019)*
- *Ray of Light Farm, East Haddam, CT (2019)*
• Red Skye Foundation, BETHANY, CT
• *Rising Starr Horse Rescue, Wilton, CT (2019)
• *Shepard Meadows Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc., BRISTOL, CT (2020)
• SpiritHorse Therapeutic Riding Center of Canton, Inc., CANTON, CT
• *The Equus Effect, SHARON, CT (2019)

*EQUUS Foundation Guardian Charity

Health Benefits and Insurance Assistance

• EMERGENCY RELIEF Health and Insurance Benefits:
  $20 USEF Fan Memberships with Access to Health and Insurance Benefits (Promo Code RELIEF)
  Guaranteed-Issue Benefits with Discounts up to 35% off Market Prices for USEF Members

Financial Assistance

• Homes for Horses: listing of organizations that fund grants for equine welfare
• Equestrian Aid Foundation: The Foundation will prioritize assistance to industry professionals and service providers who have lost their primary or only income as a direct result of the pandemic. A one-time emergency grant payment of $500 is intended to assist qualified applicants with basic living expenses. COVID-19 Emergency Grant closes April 15.
• EQUUS Foundation: For equine-related non-profits and government agencies
• U.S. Small Business Administration Loan-Provides low-interest disaster loans to help businesses and homeowners recover from declared disasters. Currently, they are offering a Paycheck Protection Program to help and encourage small businesses to maintain their payroll with up to 100% being eligible for loan forgiveness if businesses are able to maintain all employees on payroll for eight weeks.
  o Find more information on the SBA Paycheck Protection Program here
  o Paycheck Protection Program Fact Sheet here
  o Paycheck Protection Program Application here
  o Find more information on the SBA COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loans here.
  o Find a Local Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Location here
• U.S. Chamber of Commerce Coronavirus Emergency Loans Guides:
  o Guide to SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans here.
• American Horse Council's Tax Bulletin- March 2020
  o Congress, President Deliver $2 Trillion Relief Package, Address Many Horse Industry Concerns here
• Information on the Tax Aspects of the Coronavirus Relief Act here
• Contact your lender and loan service provider to find out what options are available to you such as: refinance, loan modification, new repayment plan or forbearance.

Breed/Discipline Specific Assistance

Arabian Horses

• Region 16 Covid-19 Emergency Fund
• Arabian Horsemen’s Distress Fund (AHDF)

Saddle Horses (Morgans, Saddlebreds, Hackneys, etc.)

• UPHA Dewey Henderson Benevolent Fund Grant Application (for current UPHA Professional Members of 2+ years)
  o UPHA Professional Members that meet the minimum two consecutive years active membership requirement need to apply for aid using the UPHA Dewey Henderson Benevolent Fund Application.
• JLC Horsemen’s Relief Fund Grant Application (for non or new UPHA Members)
  o Horse trainers, instructors, independent contractors, and other members who are financially distressed, such as horse show staff, that do not meet the minimum two-year active UPHA Professional membership criteria for the UPHA Dewey Henderson Benevolent Fund, you will need to apply using the JLC Horsemen’s Relief Fund Application.

Hunter/Jumper

• Show Jumping Relief Fund: To help the many people in the competitive equestrian industry affected by the show closures due to COVID 19, i.e. Ring crew, in-gate crew, grooms, braiders, stewards, judges, office staff, security, etc.