

THE EQUINE PROJECT

Foster Policy

The Equine Project offers a Foster care program for those who qualify. Horses taken off the property will only be taken to approved locations. We retain the right to conduct a monthly inspection to ensure that the horse is being properly treated and cared for. You would be responsible for all expenses relating to care for the horse as if it were your own. If the horse ever becomes available for adoption, you would have first rights to the horse. The following criteria must be met:

1. Feeding: You are responsible for feeding (must ensure that horse is given the appropriate amount of nutrition based on the age and condition of the horse). This includes any supplements, vitamins, hay, and grain as required by the horse's medical record. The horse's weight and condition is to be kept between moderate 5 and fleshy 7 as per the Henneke Scoring System. The horse is to have access to fresh water at ALL times (This means that in the winter months, the water should be free of ice). The water buckets are to be scrubbed at a minimum of 1x per week. All feed bids are expected to be kept clean and free of contaminants (examples would be mold, feces, rodents, insects, etc.).
2. Fencing / Shelter: Your facility must be fenced. The Equine Project will not be responsible for securing your location in any way. Barb wire will not be considered safe and you will be liable for any injuries related to improper fencing. You are also responsible to ensure that the horse has shelter from bad weather. If the horse is kept stalled, the stall must be cleaned and the horse must be turned out and exercised daily. If the horse is pastured only, you must make sure that it has ample room for regular exercise.
3. Hoof Care: You will be responsible for keeping the horses feet in healthy condition. This includes a mandatory trimming every 6-8 weeks and shoes if the horse requires them.
4. Veterinary Costs: You are responsible for all vet bills resulting from poor care and / or neglect. An annual check-up will be the Equine Project's responsibility. We retain the right to make all final decisions regarding medical care of the fostered horse.
5. Riding: You have riding privileges while the horse is in your care. We must approve the type of riding and the tack you will be using to ensure that it is appropriate for the horse you are taking home*. The horse must always be kept in appropriate weight and condition to exercise your riding privileges.
6. Basic Care: Basic Care is your responsibility. Grooming to be accomplished at a minimum of once per week. Use your horse blanket as often as necessary especially when the weather moves to freezing temperatures. Preventative maintenance such as worming, bathing, clipping and dusting provided as needed.*

Additional Terms and Conditions:

1. You may not under any circumstances breed, sell, auction, give away, transfer, or dispose of any fostered horse **OR YOU WILL BE PERSECUTED FOR THEFT TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.**
2. If The Equine Project finds that you have mistreated, disposed of, put down, slaughtered, or abused any fostered horse **YOU WILL BE PERSECUTED FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.** If a horse has a life threatening illness or injury and must be put down, we retain the right to make that decision.

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3. You may not under any circumstances claim ownership of the horse. This includes listing your name in the “name of owner section” of any document. Your name may be listed on a receipt as long as The Equine Project is listed as the sole owner of the horse.
4. You may not move the horse without approval from the Equine Project. In an emergency situation (examples would be flood, fire, etc.), you may move the horse at your discretion but we must be notified within 24 hours.

I, _____, understand my responsibilities and will abide by the terms and conditions listed in this document. I will return _____ on _____ in the same weight, spirit, and condition received, as listed in the horse’s Medical Record, lest be held liable all costs related with rehabilitating the horse. If at any time we find that _____ is not being cared for as per the terms listed in this document, we retain the right to seize the horse at any time.

Signature & Date (Foster Parent)

Signature & Date (The Equine Project)

Name

Name

*For all information related to basic care, riding, grooming, tack, and fitting please refer to the 4H manual at [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/4h7933](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/4h7933).