

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

All Access Adventure volunteers must commit to reviewing and following our established protocols and assist each other in maintaining a safe place to work. We must each remember to follow the rules designed to keep volunteers and visitors from exposure to potentially dangerous situations.

- Use the buddy system. Never work alone with horses.
- New and inexperienced volunteers must work at all times with an experienced mentor.
- Minors must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or two adult Access Adventure volunteers.
- Under no circumstances should any volunteer applicants interact with horses or participants until they have completed the training and demonstrated proficiency.
- Don't perform any task with horses that exceeds your comfort level or degree of training and experience.
- Wear sturdy closed-toed shoes when working with horses. Rubber boots are acceptable for muddy weather and washing horses.
- Always wear an approved and well-fitting helmet when required to do so. Riders must wear boots/shoes with well-defined heels.
- Carefully following all harnessing and hitching protocols helps ensure safety.
- Ensure the integrity of our paddocks by preventing all unauthorized persons from having direct contact with our horses.
- Mares with foals are very protective. They can be particularly aggressive toward other horses. Be aware of your position around them.
- With a stallion, even those who appear gentle, don't be fooled. Everything can be fine until: he is faced with mares, you get in his way, or you challenge his dominance.
- Do not perform chores around loose horses. If you are working in their paddock, move them or halter and tie them.
- The high point of a horse's day is feeding time. Leave him alone to enjoy his food. Never get between a horse and his feed. Stay out of paddocks where horses are eating. Feed from outside the fence or stall. Multiple horses are competitive about food.
- Ask for clarification if you don't understand the who, what, when, where and how details for an assigned task.
- Attend scheduled safety trainings and sign off on performing duties according to established protocols. Help others to adhere to these protocols and work safely together.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important commitment to stay safe!

I have reviewed and agree to the above guidelines.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____