



Connecticut Horse Council

"Horsemen United in Leadership, Service and Education"

2024 NEW YEAR NEWSLETTER

2024

SIMPLY HORSES

Our heartfelt wish for the New Year is that in the world peace blossoms, and that the bond between humans and animals deepens with understanding and compassion. May our shared journey on this planet be marked by respect, kindness, and a harmonious connection for the benefits of all beings.

Happy New Year Friends,

Wishing You All Health, Wealth and Abundance in 2024 !

As we reflect on years pass, we can all realize how truly blessed we are to have this state horse council still going since 1971. Many of our organizations have not been so fortunate. People lose interest in the history of an organization, older members pass away, and new members are not often recruited. Our membership has declined as many of the organizations in our state.

While we follow the mission of the Council, we also work hard to be the “Umbrella Organization” for all aspects of the Equine Industry. We work to educate ourselves and those around us by creating and participating educational events to promote our industry and the rich history of how the horse benefited mankind throughout the ages.

The CHC, Inc., can only be as strong as its membership. Please join us and work together to protect your interests for today and tomorrow! We are always looking for new members, new ideas, volunteers that want to help make a difference. We can use help in fundraising, monetary donations or whatever you can offer to help the council continue our mission and as always for your continued membership support.

CHC is moving forward in promoting our mission and what we do.

We are calling this “**Out Reach**”. Below are some of the plans and goals:

Revamping our Facebook Page: Unfortunately, over the years it became a “free site advertisement page to sell anything” for many people who have not supported the Horse Council with their membership. We now have admins that will monitor and approve posts. We want our Members, Organizations and Business Sponsors to use this page to share information, events, pictures of events past as it was created for this reason. We would love to have you contribute any event that you may have, post your trail ride pictures, horse show events, etc. CHC Business sponsors, feel free to promote your products or services! Go to our FB page and sign in as a member. Our admins will approve your posts.

Updating our Website: We have done a few updates and will be posting highlights of our meeting notes for members that can’t make our meetings, updating our publications and adding information on our HORSE 911 program.

Updating our CONNECTIONS This form is on the CHC Membership application, so if you are able to provide help in emergency situations, please fill out your information on page 2.

EDUCATION - OUTREACH: Members of CHC and the CT Equine Advisory Council (EAC) are working on creating outreach programs to the community. We are looking for volunteers that may be interested in these programs:

HORSE 911 We will be doing training classes for Animal Control Officers, Firemen and other emergency responders. If you would like a training in your local community and would be willing to help set up a location, we’ll come to you!

CERT & SART Classes CHC will also be providing information for individuals on where to get CERT & SART Classes in the 5 regions in CT. We will then be moving forward with establishing a Search &

Rescue Team around the state. You will need to go through the first two steps: 1. CERT Certification 2. SART Certification. If you are interested in this, please contact me.

SHARE THE TRAIL EVENTS Members of CHC and the CT Equine Advisory Council (EAC) are working having educational events geared for bicyclists and dog walkers. We will be working with DEEP in two locations this spring – Machimoodus/Sunrise State Park and Airline Trail in Colchester area

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*** **The DEEP is holding its annual "NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE" Winter Festival on Saturday, February 3rd** at Burr Pond State Park in Torrington, CT.

If any of you can possibly plan on bringing your horse it will be much appreciated. Let me know ASAP, so that DEEP can plan on lunches for participants and so I can notify you of any change of date.

Bad weather date of Sunday, February 4th. See page 4 for more information

*** **Make Your Own Horse Care Products – Sunday, February 25th**

Connecticut Trail Rides Association (CTRA) is hosting this workshop will on Sunday, February 25th - 1:30 pm t the UCONN Extension Center, 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT. (Bad Weather Day will be Sunday, March 3rd)

SAVE THE DATES: CHC-VHP ANNUAL MEETING & OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 16th

We always welcome new members. This Patrol which celebrated 20 years in 2022 has established so many connections with DEEP, Private Land owners and Town Lands. Join the CHC-VHP and be a part of promoting equestrian use on trails while providing a community service while having fun and riding your horse!

HAPPY TRAILS

Diane Ciano, President

203.910.9919 DianeMCiano@gmail.com

Your CHC Representation around the state...

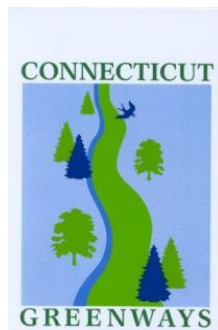
CONNECTICUT HORSE COUNCIL



VOLUNTEER HORSE PATROL



CONNECTICUT EQUINE ADVISORY COUNCIL



CONNECTICUT GREENWAYS COUNCIL



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- SCORP – State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- CT State Trails Plan
- CT State Forest Plan

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DEEP - No Child Left Inside Winter Festival

Burr Pond State Park in Torrington on Saturday, February 3rd 2024 from 10 am to 3pm.

Every year DEEP asks that horses be available for children to pet. This is a very large audience of children and adults that many have never touched a horse. This is a very rewarding and healing experience for many people. CHC provides safe horses for such an occasion with all the activities going on.

If you have a horse that you feel would be safe for this event, please contact Diane Ciano 203.910.9919 DianeMCiano@gmail.com

There is a snow/ice day scheduled for Sunday, February 4th if necessary.



CONNECTICUT STATE PARKS

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
and The No Child Left Inside® Program in partnership with
Fish with CARE (Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education)
and the City of Torrington

No Child Left Inside®

Winter Festival

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES INCLUDING:

**ICE FISHING • BONFIRE • SEARCH & RESCUE DOGS • SNOWSHOEING
WINTER GAMES • ICE SCULPTURES
WINTER HIKES • ICE SAFETY
MARSHMALLOW TOASTING**

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 3, 2024
10AM-3PM**

WEATHER DATE
FEBRUARY 4TH

Burr Pond State Park | 384 Burr Mountain Rd. Torrington, CT

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.NOCHILDLEFTINSIDE.ORG
OR EMAIL KRISTEN.BELLANTUONO@CT.GOV

FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CTSTATEPARKS/](https://www.facebook.com/CTSTATEPARKS/)
[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/CTSTATEPARKS/](https://www.instagram.com/CTSTATEPARKS/)

FREE EVENT

**FOOD AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE**

CITY OF TORRINGTON CONNECTICUT INC. 1923

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Natural Care Work Shop



Do you and your friends want something to do that involves horses, you can learn something and stay out of the cold at the same time?

Connecticut Trail Rides Association (CTRA) is hosting "Make Your Own Natural Horse Care Products" The workshop will be on Sunday, February 25th - 1:30 pm t the UCONN Extension Center, 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT (*Bad Weather Day will be March 3rd*)

It will be preceded by a Potluck Lunch at 12:30 - All are welcome to attend just bring something to share. Contact President [Debra Strickland](#) to RSVP for the lunch.

It is requested that you register by no later than Feb 20, 2024, so they can make sure to have enough supplies for everyone. ***Space is limited so don't wait.***

Please register for class to reserve your spot on the link:

<https://forms.gle/df1BC9Z25QSF8DJWA>

Brenda Vynalek will be leading this workshop You will learn how to make Mane Tamer, Ligament Relief Rub, Bug Repellant, Hoof Salve, Drawing Clay, and Wound Salve, for your horses. These can also be used on your dogs.

She will also share a few of her favorite natural cleaning recipes, for bits, saddles and buckets. And of course, her favorite mixtures for Anxiety, Hormones, and Focus. In this 1-hour class will you learn not only how to make your own natural products, quickly and easily, but you will see just how inexpensive making these on your own really is.

The class portion of this workshop is free! We will then take a quick break and those who would like to try their hand on making some gels, sprays and salves can stay for the second half, fee is \$25, This portion of workshop will last about an hour, and will include all ingredients, jars, spray bottles, labels, and a booklet filled with information including the recipes! Please use the following Google Form link above to sign up for workshop.

If you have any questions reach out to Brenda Vynalek via text/call at 860-227-2147



Volunteer Horse Patrol Annual Meeting & OPEN HOUSE



Date to be announced: SATURDAY, March 16th 2024

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

WELCOME -New & Interested members

**Bring a Friend -We need your support to continue and expand this
statewide program started in 2003**

Pot Luck & Raffle Items

Bring a dish to share – Items for Tea Cup Raffle - \$ for 50-50 Raffle

**Company 1 Firehouse
1485 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111**

The Volunteer Horse Patrol serves the community by providing data to the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and helping other user groups with general information, directions, and first aid.

Continued education and dialogue between all trail user groups (such as trail etiquette about how all user groups can safely interact on the trail) is crucial as more of us share fewer recreational trails. The Connecticut Horse Council created the Volunteer Horse Patrol (VHP) in 2003 to assist the state during a time of economic hardship.

The VHP has come a long way from its small start in 2003 of 5 patrol areas to over 100 areas around the state, including town parks, open spaces and land trusts. As we continue to grow, we are expanding our riding opportunities and helping to create long distance connecting trails. Congratulations to all members, because each of your patrol logs, no matter how many hours you patrol and maintain trails adds to the grander total of statewide hours. This service provides CHC, DEEP and other Land Management Areas with information on how the equestrian community is continuing its effort to maintain trails for multiple use, while promoting and educating the community and other equestrians of our volunteer efforts.

Members patrol local and other areas they are able to get to. There are no required hours – we ask that you log the hours you do ride so that they are included in our total that we submit to DEEP at the end of every year. The CHC-VHP provides safety vests that identify volunteers. Your membership is \$20.00 a year to the CHC. Members are asked to get certified with CPR & First Aid on their own. If you would like to join the CHC VHP, please contact Diane Ciano DianeMCiano@gmail.com 203.910.9919 for information and applications.

Your CHC Representation around the state...

CONNECTICUT EQUINE ADVISORY COUNCIL



The Connecticut Equine Advisory Council was established on May 22, 2007 by **Public Act 07-42** to assist the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection with issues related to the preservation of equine trails in the state.

Membership: The council consists of the president of the Connecticut Horse Council and five representatives from organizations that serve the horse industry within each congressional district statewide in addition to one member of the Connecticut Forests and Parks Association, appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

The mission of the Equine Advisory Council and is to promote equestrian use on public lands, creating, preserving, maintaining and restoring trails.

The CT Equine Advisory Council's website and link to the **Multi Use Trail Surface Study** and the **CT Horse Council's Volunteer Horse Patrol Trail User Study** can be viewed on: <http://www.ct.gov/deep/eac> under "Links" and on our CHC website. These studies can be used to educate and promote multi-use trails and surfaces for planners of trails who may play a role in maintaining or implementing trail systems including town planners, recreation committees and Council of Governments throughout the state.

Please contact Diane Ciano for current updates or changes for 2023 meetings

CT Horse Council President – Diane Ciano

1st Congressional District – Meg Sautter (*Appointed 2008*)

2nd Congressional District – Ruth Strontzer (*Appointed 2019*)

3rd Congressional District – Danielle Borelli (*Appointed 2020*)

4th Congressional District – Vevette Greenberg (*Appointed 2021*)

5th Congressional District – Open

DEEP Liaison – Kimberly Bradley, CT State Parks Trails & Greenways Program

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

[Recreational Trails Program](#) [CT Greenways Program](#)

CT Forest & Park Association -

2024 CT Equine Advisory Council Meeting Dates:

The EAC will meet at the **Eversource Community Room 107 Selden Street, Berlin**

6:30 PM on the following Thursdays: **March 21st** , **June 20th**, **September 26th** and **December 19th**

The public is welcomed. Zoom or Conference calls are available.

Meeting Highlight notes from CHC meeting 12/5 & Equine Advisory Council 12/21/23:

Diane reported that meetings have not been set up yet regarding EAC meeting discussions of 9/19/2023. She has contacted DEP Kim Bradley and meeting dates will be set up in 2024. We will need to create an agenda of discussion with DEEP officials beforehand.

Diane received a letter from the CT Forest & Park Association regarding usage of their headquarters for the EAC meetings. In 2024, their policy is that in order to use their community room, Corporate and Organizations will need to pay for their membership to CFPA to support their work: price depending on the room usage (\$100 - \$175). Diane contacted them to remind that CFPA has an appointed member to the Council. Discussion that the EAC is a state council and therefore does not have funding to pay for the community room. We will be looking for a new location.

Diane contacted Senator Bob Duff, Senate Majority Leader for the Fifth District regarding an EAC appointment for Denise Ciano. His Counsel to Senate Majority Leader, Aleandra (Alex) Slaney stated that he is looking at other options regarding the appointment.

Melissa Evarts reported that the Bridle Land Conservancy /Lower CT River Valley Horsemen's Club has pretty much given up on them rebuilding the rotted bridge in the Preserve as there seems to be "politics" involved - the Land is not owned by the state, different towns own different areas, inland wetlands issues, etc. make it way above their paygrade.

Education/Outreach:

Discussion on CHC & members of the Equine Advisory Council (EAC) setting up programs for ACO, firemen, police, and other first aid responders regarding handling of horses in emergency situations. Danielle Borelli, who was an ACO has offered to help CHC & EAC in getting this project going and has set up a Power Point program she has made. We would like to see this as a classroom PP and hands on events with horses around the state in several locations where there are large populations of horses, (Bethany, Newtown, Fairfield County, Cockaponset, Gilette Castle, Pomfret, Pachaug and Mashamoquet areas. She would like to have trainings for ACO's PD and Firefighters. Danielle and Laurianne will work on it.

For 2024 this will be our goal to work on this:

Need to Get the kids involved with programs. Vo-ag, barns, etc.

Discussion on getting equestrians started on CERT and then to join their district State Animal Response Teams (SART). Looking for volunteers to search the districts and get contact information regarding CERT training (required before a person can volunteer for SART). Meg has a list of people.

Discussion on updating our list of "Connections" and how we can improve it so that if there is an emergency, emergency personnel could access it and contact us. Diane will be contacting a member of the Durham Animal Rescue Team (DART) to speak at our annual Volunteer Horse Patrol meeting in March.

Health & Welfare: Bunny Joseph reported that her and another rider were severely injured at Machimoodus -Sunrise State Park. A dog that was leashed and tied to a picnic table, bolted out in front of their horses that were grazing and spooked them. This is the second injury reported in this area. We will need volunteers to set up a safety program there to educate dog owners. Discussion with DEEP Kim Bradley and members of the Equine Advisory Council has been to set up an educational Program with mountain bikers in the spring in the Colchester area (Airline). Danielle has also offered to help out with a Presentation to the mountain bike community.

Trail News:

Natchaug State Forest: Diane Contacted Matt Quinn regarding the well that was supposed to be reinstalled at the Lost Silver Mine Horse Camp this spring. Apparently the new company wanted \$6,000 to do it and the DEEP said no, so they are looking to rebuild it themselves.

Nepaug State Forest: Diane attended the CT DEEP Division of State Parks and Division of Forestry meeting on October 5th at the CT DEEP Pleasant Valley Field Office, Pleasant Valley, CT to review and discuss a trail authorization request for Nepaug State Forest. This was a meeting was to discuss the trail system proposed by the New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMA) and closing some of the unauthorized trails were built that are not sustainable. One component was to ask the CT Forest & Park Association (CFPA) to allow part of the proposed trail system to use a portion of the Blue Blazed trail. CFPA did not make a decision at this meeting, but there will be ongoing meetings in the future. Diane provided a "lost" map of an approved multiple use trail system that CHC had marked over 15 years ago. CHC has not had any patrols in this forest for a number of years and is not aware of any equestrian usage there presently. We would like volunteers to use this forest land and eventually get trail markers up after the final plans of the forest trails are approved. There is a lot of mountain bike use in this forest, and many of the trail used buy them are not the best for equestrian safety. Staying on the main road for now is the best. There is a good sizable parking lot that was made off Rte.202 in New Hartford - that can hold at least – 5 rigs (Although this area lot is used by any users to access the forest, so may be filled up on weekends, so plan your ride early if you go there.

Roraback WMA: Recently Vevette Greenburg reported: DEEP cleared the tree that was blocking the trails on the main trail, and we met a crew working on the back side trail and they were doing a great job clearing. The only other spot in question is a trail on the north side of South Street. This trail can be entered just a little up from the south street parking lot. If you are headed back towards town, the entrance is on the right. Right away you find a widow maker that someone has cut a piece off where it comes to the ground and that has made it easier to step over, but it would be nice to see this taken down. If you continue into the trail along the stream. You will come to a fork in the trail. Follow the one up the hill and you will come to an area where a number of trees have fallen. We have done some work to continue thru. But it would be better to get some chain saws in there to make it more easily passable. .

The Preserve: Melissa Evarts reported that the Bridle Land Conservancy /Lower CT River Valley Horsemen's Club has pretty much given up on them rebuilding the rotted bridge in the Preserve as there seems to be "politics " involved - the Land is not owned by the state, different towns own different areas, inland wetlands issues, etc. make it way above their paygrade.

Cockaponset SF - Webbers Woods: Ruth Strontzer reported that there have been bridges built there by DEEP that are not multi use and are unsafe They are only two feet wide and not anchored, so they shift and move. They were placed in the crossing areas so it is now hard to get around them

Machimoodus/Sunrise SP: Ruth Strontzer reported that most of the trails are in good shape. The carriage trail that runs along the river from the boat launch area over to the old landing strip area has a tree down on it. The trail leading from the lower vista to the upper vista has been reopened by Alex's trail crew. They installed a switch back section that although is a little narrow in some areas is very nice and avoids the last steep climb up. New bridges have been built on the yellow trail and the orange trail behind the pond both on multi use trails but again unsafe for

horses only 2 ft wide and not anchored. The one on the trail behind the pond actually shifted and moved when Ruth crossed it with her horse.

CT Forest Plan - Salmon River State Forest - Leesville Block and Wopowog WMA

CHC was contacted to address the 10-year plan of this area which encompasses a total of 1,257 acres of state forestland within the towns of East Hampton, East Haddam, Haddam, and Colchester. CHC is looking for equestrians that ride this area so that CHC can make comments to include equestrian use. Please contact Diane Ciano with any information you may have on the trail system there. **The deadline is January 19th to address the draft plan.**

Legislation:

Kim Bradley reported that the National Park Recreation Trail Grant for 10 million was released in 2023. Grant application deadline is March 11, 2024. Contact Kim.Bradley@ct.gov for information.

Other News:

Website: Rebecca Wheeler Harnish updated the website putting our meeting dates for 2024 up on the front page. Our meeting times have been changed to 6:30 pm. The website will continue to be updated. We will be posting highlights of our meeting notes for members that can't make our meetings, updating our publications, adding information on our HORSE 911 program and will be adding more information/ links on the legislation page, so that when needed members will be able to know which legislators to contact. We also be adding current photos to the page.

Face Book: Discussion as the first thing that comes is "Buy or Sell" and to remove and change things around to have better content regarding the horse industry, add more information about CHC, encourage people to join, add link to CHC website application and manage content, etc. We encourage members, organizations and business sponsors to post on the page to help increase unity by promoting their events, business and posting information regarding any issues that need to be addressed concerning the horse community.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP): Diane reports that the DRAFT report 2024-2029 is up on the DEEP Website : https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/outdoor_recreation/scorp/CT-SCORP-2024-2029-for-Public-Comment.pdf

CHC CONNECTIONS: CHC will be updating our list of "Connections" and how we can improve it so that if there is an emergency, emergency personnel could access it and contact us. This form is on the CHC Membership application, so if you are able to provide help in emergency situations, please fill out page 2.

Health & Welfare: Bunny Joseph reported that her and another rider were severely injured at Machimoodus/Sunrise State Park. A dog that was leashed and tied to a picnic table, bolted out in front of their horses that were grazing and spooked them. This is the second injury reported in this area. We will need volunteers to set up a safety program there to educate dog owners. Discussion with DEEP Kim Bradley and members of the Equine Advisory Council has been to set up an educational Program with mountain bikers in the spring in the Colchester area (Airline). Danielle has also offered to help out with a Presentation to the mountain bike community.

Outreach: CERT – SART- Search & Rescue:

Do you know about the Community Emergency Response Team CERT training?

Cert has two sides to it. One is dealing with people and the other is SART (State Animal Response Team) dealing with animal. To become a SART member, you must first take the 20-hour training to become CERT certified.

CERT is a nationwide training approach that enables volunteers to learn about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may occur where they live. To first help themselves and their families; expanding to help their neighbors and then their community. By taking the free classes, you will qualify for your FEMA Certification, but you can also just take the training for your own personal protection.

The training involves fire safety, light search & rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. www.Fema.gov has extensive information on CERT, including where to find classes. The idea is to have each town have and train CERT volunteers. Starting with your own town, check with the Emergency Manager, Fire Chief/Fire Marshall, or the Police Chief. If your town has CERT it will be listed on the Town website. Since the training is universal, you can take a class anywhere it's offered.

With the CERT training completed, you can then become SART certified. SART deals with the sheltering of pets in conjunction with a human shelter. SART also trains in animal evacuation, which will ultimately end with sheltering

Getting Certificated as a Team Member is the 1st step to moving on to getting your SART (State Animal Response Team) certification

CHC is discussing working on getting interested members on a path to establishing a Search & Rescue and working with DART (Durham Animal Rescue Team). As noted above, the first required step is to get equestrians to be certified as a member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and then to join their district State Animal Response Teams (SART). Then CHC will proceed with Search & Rescue Training.

Please contact Diane Ciano if you are interested. Below is the information on upcoming trainings that we are aware of scheduled for this year, but do check you local first responders mentioned above for classes that may be nearer to you.

The **Hamden Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** will be conducting a Basic 8-Week, 20 Hour Training Course starting on Thursday, **February 22nd, 2024** at the Dunbar Hill Fire Station #8, 420 Dunbar Hill Road in Hamden. This 8-week class will be conducted once a week starting at 6:30 p.m. and will be approximately two- and one-half hours. This course will be open to anyone over the age of 18 who has just an interest in protecting their loved ones or in joining our team, in providing: needed Emergency Services while helping the Hamden Community during emergencies and pre-planned community events. The training will consist of: Basic & Disaster First Aid, Light Search and Rescue Techniques, Control of Home Utilities, Fire Extinguisher Training, Traffic Safety, along with the Goals and Protocols of the FEMA Sponsored, Nationally Recognized, CERT Program. Applications will be available on our website at: www.hamdenCERT.com and must be completed, signed and returned to the Office of the Fire Chief, 2372 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT. 06518 no later than Monday, February 12th. For any additional information, feel free to contact us through our website or email at: hamdenCERT@gmail.com.

Another basic training in CERT will be in West Hartford in March- Date to be announced submit your application here:

<https://www.westhartfordct.gov/town-departments/fire-department/emergency-management/community-emergency-response-team-cert#:~:t>

Your CHC Representation around the state...

CONNECTICUT GREENWAYS COUNCIL

Members of the Connecticut Greenways Council are appointed by the Governor and the leaders of the General Assembly. Their duties include advising and assisting in the coordination of state agencies, municipalities, regional planning organizations and private citizens in voluntarily planning and implementing a system of greenways; providing assistance to state agencies, municipalities, regional planning organizations and private citizens in the technical aspects of planning, designing and implementing greenways, including advice on securing state, federal and nongovernmental grants; advising DEEP on selection of CT Recreational Trails Program grants; and establishing criteria for designation of greenways. Many Council members have had direct experience with trail and greenway development, and they can provide valuable insight into the development of successful local and regional projects.

Council Members

Lois Bruinooge - Executive Director, The Last Green Valley

Paula Burton - New England Mountain Biking Association

Stacey Stearns - CT Horse Council & Water Trails

Robert Dickinson - South Windsor Walk and Wheel Ways; Bike Walk CT

R.Bruce Donald (Chair) - Tri-State Coordinator, East Coast Greenway

Joe Hickey - CT Forest & Park Assoc.

Gillian Carroll - Eversource Energy

William D. O'Neill - East Coast Greenways Alliance (former Chair)

Rista Malanca - (Vice Chair) Naugatuck River Greenway

Cathy Hagadorn - CT Audubon Society, Deer Pond Farm Director

Gwen Marrion - (Secretary) Bolton Trails Committee

Brian Wilson (DEEP Liaison) - Ex-Officio Member

Anna Bergeron, DOT Planning Division - Ex-Officio Member



Your purchase of a Connecticut Greenways license plate will make a difference! These plates both raise the public awareness of the importance of our greenways AND provide funding for state and local efforts to preserve, restore and protect our greenways. Greenway systems offer an exciting opportunity to reestablish connections between the State's natural and cultural resource base and its people. It has been said that greenways connect the places we live to the places we love.

[Greenways License Plate Applications](#)

NOTE: CHC is looking for someone to replace Stacey Stearns as an equestrian representative on The GREENWAYS Council. If you are interested in getting a gubernatorial appointment to represent the CT Horse Council, please contact Diane Ciano, 203.910.9919 or email: DianeMCiano@gmail.com

The CT Greenways Council meetings are open to the public. The Council meets at **9:00 am** on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except August, and December) virtually and/or at the offices of VHB, Inc. located at 100 Great Meadow Road Suite 200, in Wethersfield, Connecticut. Contact Kimberly Bradley, DEEP Trails and Greenways Coordinator, to be added to the meeting announcement distribution list at kimberly.bradley@ct.gov.

2024 Membership

If your name is not on the supporting membership list, won't you please consider supporting your state horse council. It is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you in advance.

Carol Birdsey Membership Chairperson. membership@cthorsecouncil.org 860-344-1804

*** = Volunteer Horse Patrol Members**
= WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Linda Alcourse – Oxford
 *Marie Aparo – New Britain
 Pat Aresco – Litchfield
 Karen Batts – Morris
 Janet Belval – Tolland
 Carol Birdsey – Middletown
 Mary Bonville – North Stonington
 Eve Bucca – Tuckahoe, NY
 Deborah Carlson – Derby
 Sally Carter – Nashua, NH
 * Denise Ciano – Wolcott
 * Diane Ciano – Plymouth
 *Patti Crowther – Windsor, SC
 Jessica Dempsey – Tolland
 * Melissa Evarts – Clinton
 Melissa Fijol – Thompson
 Esther Fiddes – Bethel
 *Ken Forcier – Oxford
 *Vevette Greenberg – Oxford
 Lana Claire Ives – North Haven
 Bunny Joseph – Colchester
 CarolAnne Keely – Wilton
 Anne-Marie LaForest – Woodstock
 Cathy Languerand – Oakdale
 Darin Latimore – Bethany
 Waneta Lenk – Colchester
 Teresa Mangini – Woodbury
 Cheryl Mastele – Durham
 Ryan McLaughlin - Brookfield
 Jenifer Nadeau – Andover
 Leslie Neikrie – Middletown
 Randy Olmstead – Terryville
 *Nancy Palermo-Lee – Westbrook
 Katie Richards – Bethel
 Lisette Rimer – Pomfret Center
 Gary Rutkauskas – Plymouth
 Celeste Santos-Rivera – Voluntown
 *Meg Sautter – Newington
 Christine Schilling – Brookfield
 Alesha Schwarz – Glastonbury

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Jeremy Serwer – East Woodstock
 Ted Shafer – Burlington
 Marcia Sigman – Portland
 MaryAnn Smith – Salem
 *Debra Strickland – Wallingford
 *Ruth Stronzer – Haddam
 Bethany Thatcher – Sandy Hook

FAMILY MEMBERS

Don & Jean Nordell – East Windsor
 Rob Sawyer & Family – Griswold
 *Joel & Joanne Conte – Southington
 Linda Wenner & Debbie Hubbell – Hampton

BUSINESS MEMBERS

See ads below

B.D. Farrier Services

Bud Dore – Litchfield

Doug Dubitsky, Esq.

Equine Law – Windham

Drafty Pines Farm

Emily & Daniel Chaplin – Central Village

Express Your Pet

Laurianne Goulet – Rocky Hill

The John Bennett Stable

John Bennett – Putnam

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Bethany Horsemen

Connecticut Trail Rides Association

Middlebury Bridle Lands Association Inc.

ORGANIZATIONS	BUSINESS MEMBERS:
<i>Please support us for 2024</i>	<i>Please support us for 2024</i>
CT Dressage Association	
Connecticut Valley Driving Club	A R Equine Transport Service LLC Adam Wilson & Randy Moitoso
CT Quarter Horse Association	
CT Morgan Horse Association	Lock Stock & Barrel Inc. Peter LaTronica – Bethany
CT Dressage Association	Strain Family Horse Farm Bill Strain – Granby
Eastern Draft Horse Association	G. M. Thompson & Sons, Inc Mansfield Depot
Horse Council of Granby	
Litchfield Hills Driving Club	Laura Claman Equine Solutions/Blazing Saddles Consignment Laura Claman
Lower CT River Valley Horsemen’s Club	
Newtown Bridle Lands Association	Lori Vogel / William Raveis Equestrian Real Estate Lori Vogel – Middlefield
Northwest Draft Horse Association	
Pomfret Horse & Trail Association	
Reddington Rock Riding Club	

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Please support us for 2024!



THE BETHANY HORSEMEN
Bethany, Connecticut



Connecticut Trail Rides Association, Inc.

~ Established 1940 ~

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cttrailridesassoc.org • Conn Trail Rides Association – CTRA

Trail Riding and Camping with Horses



www.cvdrivingclub.com

HORSE COUNCIL OF GRANBY, Inc.



www.granbyhorsecouncilct.com



Litchfield Hills Driving Club

www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.org



Lower Connecticut River Valley Horsemen's Club

www.lcrvhc.org

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Please support us for 2024!



Middlebury Bridle Land Association

www.middleburybridle.org



Pomfret Horse & Trail Association

www.pomfrethorseandtrail.com



Reddington Rock Riding Club

www.RRRCLUB.ORG

**Place Your
Organization's Support
Here**

THANK YOU!

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Organization's Support
Here**

THANK YOU!

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Here**

THANK YOU!

2024 Business Member Directory

CHC would like to encourage horse owners to use the services of our member businesses. **This will help our industry to prosper. If your business does not appear here, consider joining CHC so that we may add your listing as well. This information is made available at our trade show booth and on our website.**

Note: Listings in our business directory is a service to our members only, and does not necessarily endorse any individual, business, or product.



DOUG DUBITSKY, ESQ.
EQUINE LAW
860-808-8601

doug@lawyer.com

Drafty Pines Farm

Emily & Daniel Chaplin
 70 South Cady Lane
 Central Village, CT 06374

860-564-4037

www.draftypinesfarm.com

email: draftypinesfarm@sbcglobal.net

We teach basic riding skills in addition to overall care, health and maintenance of horse ownership. We specialize in beginners that have little or no experience around horses and who would like to discover more about them in a safe, fun environment. Our lessons are designed to help build confidence and self-esteem based on the students' individual skill level and desire to learn.



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Time: _____

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What can we feed or fix for you?

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Route 63
Bethany, CT 06524

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Fax 203-691-5450

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LoriVogel.com
Lori.Vogel@raveis.com

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR STATE HORSE COUNCIL WITH YOUR BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

To advertise on our Website and Newsletter, please send your business membership

The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc. P.O. Box 57 Durham, CT 06422-0057

Send your Business card JPEG (preferred) or PDF to: Diane Ciano DianeMCiano@gmail.com

Thank You!

The Connecticut Horse Council Meeting Dates for 2024

Meetings are held at 6:30 PM* * *Note new time*

Eversource building

107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT 06037

We hope you will join us and attend our meetings. We need You!

Please put these dates on your calendar. If there are bad weather conditions, please call Diane Ciano 203.910.9919 for possible cancellations.

We meet 5 times a year on the 1st Tuesday of the months of:

Tuesday, February 6th

Tuesday, April 2nd

Tuesday, June 4th

Tuesday, October 1st

Tuesday, December 3rd

2023-2025 Officers and Board Members

The Connecticut Horse Council Officers and Board of Directors are elected volunteers who are dedicated to helping the equine industry grow.

President

Diane Marie Ciano

Plymouth, CT

DianeMCiano@gmail.com

1st Vice President

Laurianne Goulet

Cromwell, CT

860-997-6434

CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org

2nd Vice President

Meg Sautter

Newington, CT

3rd Vice President

Randy Olmstead

Terryville, CT

Treasurer

Cheryl Mastele

Durham, CT

Membership Secretary

Carol Birdsey

Middletown, CT

membership@cthorsecouncil.org

Recording Secretary

Carol Birdsey

Middletown, CT

860-344-1804

membership@cthorsecouncil.org

Chairman of the Board

Stewart Beckett, III, DVM

Glastonbury, CT

Board of Directors:

Denise Ciano

Wolcott, CT

Edna Liberty

Portland, CT

Gary Rutkauskas

Plymouth, CT

Kowboy Ken Forcier

Oxford, CT

Ruth Strontzer,

Haddam, CT

Vevette Greenberg

Oxford, CT

Committee Chairs:

Animal Health and Welfare

Laurianne Goulet

CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org

Education

Dr. Jenifer Nadeau

Associate Professor

Equine Extension Specialist

Unit 4040, Dept. Animal Science

University of Connecticut

17 Manter Rd., Storrs, CT 06269-4040

(860) 486-4471 phone

jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu

Legislative

Publicity / Newsletter

Diane Ciano

Road Safe

Diane Ciano

Trails

Diane Ciano

DianeMCiano@gmail.com

Web Site

Laurianne Goulet

CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org

Zoning

POSITION OPEN

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Classification (Check One)

☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Student \$15

☐ Business or Professional \$40 ☐ Club \$40

☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL Membership decal available ☐ Static ☐ Sticker

Check which one you wish to receive with your membership. Additional decals are available for \$1.00 each

How did you hear about the CHC? _____

CLUB or BUSINESS NAME (if applicable) _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY / STATE/ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NUMBER OF HORSES OWNED: _____

AREAS OF INTEREST (Please check all that apply)

☐ Trails ☐ Zoning ☐ Booth ☐ Legislation ☐ Website ☐ Emergency/Disaster Preparedness

☐ Volunteer Horse Patrol ☐ Education ☐ CT Horse 911

I would be willing to serve on a committee of my interest. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More info, please

I would be willing to have my name listed with CHC **Connections** as a person to contact in an emergency involving horses, or for emergency resources. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More info, please

Please describe resources/services you would be able to provide on the back of this form.

I wish to join The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc.

_____ Date _____

Signature

Make checks payable to: The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 57
Durham, CT 06422-0057

www.cthorsecouncil.org
Telephone: 860-344-1804

Connecticut Horse Council **Connections** is a volunteer network being developed to provide assistance and resources to our fellow horse owners in the state during times of natural or man-made disasters, or emergency incidents such as fires, loose horses, or trailer accidents. When there is an incident or emergency situation involving horses **Connections** will be a resource for local fire departments, first response dispatchers, and, as they continue to organize, with local CTSART Region Team Leaders. If you choose to participate in **Connections**, CHC will add your name to our list of people who can be contacted when help is needed.

[] CHC has my permission to make my name available to my local Fire Department/local Emergency Dispatcher as an experienced horseperson to call in the event of an incident involving horse/s.

My local FD is _____

Local Police _____

[] CHC has my permission to contact me to provide emergency trailering for horse/s.

Type/size of vehicle _____

[] CHC has my permission to contact me to provide temporary emergency shelter/housing/paddock space for horses which need to be relocated in emergency situation

Describe _____

[] CHC has my permission to contact me to provide emergency supplies (feed, bedding, or other) for horses involved in emergency incidents.

Describe _____

[] I am unable to participate at this time but would like to be included in future alerts or mailings.

Although not yet mandated by Connecticut statute, the CT State Animal Response Team regions recognize the needs of large animals. CHC remains committed to assisting the five Region Team Leaders in their efforts to include horses in their disaster response plans.

[] Please give me the contact's name of my CTSART Region Team Leader so I can contact him/her.

I attest that I am at least 18 years of age and that the information I provide The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc. is true and accurate. I understand that I may, in any particular situation, prudently decline to offer my good faith services. I further understand that The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc. acts only as a conduit for providing this information to individuals and/or organizations for the purpose of emergency response, and CHC is not liable for any injury or misadventure resulting in my volunteer efforts.

Signature _____

