



## Connecticut Horse Council

"Horsemen United in Leadership, Service and Education"

[www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://www.cthorsecouncil.org)

### 2026 WINTER NEWSLETTER



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 2026 !

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.

We ask that you continue to support us through your yearly membership and volunteer in any way you can so that we can stay strong and united in the horse industry.

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. We also provide great information on our website that can be utilized and shared.

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.

You can mail your check to the P.O. Box number or fill out the application online and use PayPal.

**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. Your information will also be shared with DART (Durham Animal Response Rescue).

CHC continues to move forward in promoting our mission and what we do.

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

**Updating our Website:** We have done many updates, posting highlights of our meeting notes for members that can’t make our meetings and updating our publications. We all our educational brochures that are printable. If you want hard copies please let me know.

**CT Horse 911** (Under the “News & Events” icon) We recently added a new document: [Barn Fires What You Can Do Now!!](#) and a Power Point: [Horse 911 – Large Animal Emergency Preparedness](#). There you will find more information and printable documents that you can fill out concerning preparing for emergency events for you and your animals.

**Zoning** - Under “State Councils & Laws” icon → “Zoning” we have a updated a Power Point: [Why Horses Make Good Neighbors in Connecticut](#) [Horses Make Good Neighbors redo 2025](#) We have all sorts of information on Zoning and Horse Keeping of Horses Laws”) icon. You will also find links from The Equine Land Conservation Resource that leads in the protection and conservation of lands for the horse and horse-related activities.

**THE TRAILS SAFE PASSING PLAN -Stop! Speak-Stand Back - Yield to Horse** CHC has adopted this plan and is working with DEEP. Signs will become available hopefully this spring that will be placed on state Greenways, parks and forests depending on the organization's requests and volunteers to put up the signs. Trail Safe Passing Plan: [PowerPoint Presentation](#)

CHC will post upcoming events of organizations on our Newsletters (Quarterly) and more current events on our CHC Facebook page. CHC Business sponsors, feel free to promote your products or services! We ask that organizations/ businesses send a j-peg format of their events for the Newsletter to Diane Ciano, and feel free to post on FB - one of the administrators will accept.

**“Share the Trail” Events** - We are looking for volunteers to set up a small table at local events and/or trail heads to educate hikers, bicyclists and dog walkers on encountering horses. CHC can provide material for the event along with info on the Trails Safe Passing Plan. Contact Diane Ciano

**DEEP No Child Left Inside** These events are held year-round at various parks. We are looking for volunteers with a safe horse to attend these public events to promote horses while allowing the public to encounter and pet a horse.

**CHC-VHP Volunteer Horse Patrol** Now in our 23<sup>rd</sup> year, we would love to have more members join us. Ride (Patrol) trails in your area, state parks, forests, private land trusts, town lands and private properties (if allowed). Meet and greet trail users and provide them with information while promoting horseback riding. Log your hours and reports are sent to DEEP on volunteer hours!

#### **SAVE THE DATES: UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**The DEEP is holding its annual "NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE" Winter Festival on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** 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 8<sup>th</sup>. See page 6 for more information.

**CHC & Volunteer Horse Patrol Open House Annual Meeting - Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am-2:00pm.** We always welcome new members. This Patrol established so many connections with DEEP, Private Landowners 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! See page 7 for more information

**2026 CHC Meeting Dates:** February 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm Eversource Community Room.

We hope to see you at these. If you cannot attend, please call me and I will arrange a phone call to listen in. **Thank you for your continued support of your state Horse Council.**

HAPPY TRAILS

Diane Ciano, President

203-910-9919 [DianeMCiano@gmail.com](mailto:DianeMCiano@gmail.com)

## Your CHC Representation around the state...

### CONNECTICUT HORSE COUNCIL



### VOLUNTEER HORSE PATROL



### 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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**Burr Pond State Park in Torrington on Saturday, February 7th 2026 from 10 am to 3 pm.**

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](mailto:DianeMCiano@gmail.com) There is a snow/ice day scheduled for Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> if necessary.

A winter-themed poster for the 20th Anniversary of the Winter Festival. The background is a snowy forest with evergreen trees. In the center, a squirrel is ice fishing in a small pond. The text is arranged in a clear hierarchy, starting with the organizers at the top, followed by the anniversary announcement, the event title in large script, the date and time, the location, and a list of activities. Logos for the participating organizations are at the bottom.

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
No Child Left Inside® in partnership with  
FISH with CARE  
and the City of Torrington

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the

# Winter Festival

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH**  
**10 AM - 3 PM**  
(WEATHER DATE FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>)

**Burr Pond State Park**  
384 Burr Mountain Rd, Torrington, CT

**FREE EVENT | Food will be available for purchase**

ICE FISHING • BONFIRE • SEARCH & RESCUE DOGS  
SNOWSHOEING • ICE SCULPTURES • AND MORE!

For more information go to  
[ctparks.com/events/winter-festival](https://ctparks.com/events/winter-festival) or  
email [Kristen.Bellantuono@ct.gov](mailto:Kristen.Bellantuono@ct.gov)  
Follow us for updates @CTStateParks

No Child Left Inside

Connecticut State Parks

CONNECTICUT  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT



## Volunteer Horse Patrol Annual Meeting & OPEN HOUSE

**SUNDAY MARCH 22<sup>nd</sup> 2026**  
**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***

**Guest Speakers:** Honor Lawler, Project Manager for the Trust for Public Land  
Rachel Ciborowski, Associate Director of Philanthropy for the Mid-Atlantic Region at Trust for Public Land

As a leader in equitable access to the outdoors, TPL works with communities to create parks and protect public land where it is needed most. Since 1972, TPL has protected more than 3 million acres of public land, created more than 5,000 parks, trails, schoolyards and iconic outdoor places, raised \$84 billion in public funding for parks and public lands, and connected more than 9 million people to the outdoors.

Honor and Rachel will speak with the members CT Horse Council's Volunteer Horse Patrol (CHC VHP) about the Trust for Public Land organization as well as about a local land project currently underway here in Connecticut.

### ***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. 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.

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.

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.

## 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

1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District – Meg Sautter (*Appointed 2008*)

2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District – Ruth Strontzer (*Appointed 2019*)

3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District – Danielle Borelli (*Appointed 2020*)

4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District – Vevette Greenberg (*Appointed 2021*)

5<sup>th</sup> 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 -

**2026 Equine Advisory Council meetings** will be at 6:30 pm. Eversource Community Room, 107 Selden St., Berlin, CT: March 19<sup>th</sup>, June 18<sup>th</sup>, September 24<sup>th</sup>, \*December 1<sup>st</sup> \* joined with CHC meeting

The public is welcome.

## 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

#### **OPEN - 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:**

[https://portal.ct.gov/dmv/vehicle-services/get-vanity-special-plates?language=en\\_US](https://portal.ct.gov/dmv/vehicle-services/get-vanity-special-plates?language=en_US)

**Recreation Trails Grant Fund** There is 10 million dollars allocated every year. *The DEEP is not included in the Bond Commission, but will be later in the year. The Greenways Council members review the Grant Rounds.*

**The CT Greenways Council meetings are open to the public.** Contact Kimberly Bradley, DEEP Trails and Greenways Coordinator, [kimberly.bradley@ct.gov](mailto:kimberly.bradley@ct.gov) for the meeting announcements.

#### **Ann Marie Seavy-Cioffi Reports:**

- The Greenways License plate funding has \$11,000 - Discussion was on how to utilize this - perhaps a small grant project.
- The Merritt Parkway Greenway. This will be part of the East Coast Greenway. Greenwich is looking to design their section of the trail in hopes that others will follow along with the design.
- The Council will be voting on Grant applications and planning the 2026 Fall Trails Symposium.

## **Outreach / Education: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - UP COMING EVENTS**

### ***Promoting and Supporting the Horse Industry through Education and Community Service***

**Promoting CHC:** Ann Marie has offered to work on “branding” CHC and promoting our mission. CHC is looking for volunteers to help.

#### **Website:**

- **CHC HORSE 911:** *(Under the “News & Events” icon)* Danielle Borelli’s power point is up on the website. CHC [Horse 911 – Large Animal Emergency Preparedness](#) along with an informational sheet “Barn Fires: What you can do now!” There you will find more information and printable documents that you can fill out concerning preparing for emergency events for you and your animals
- **ANIMAL WELFARE:** Cathy Latulipe and Jennifer Smith are working on a document for the website, listing CT Rescue farms and those that provide services for handicapped individuals. Cathy Languerand will submit articles and events for our animal welfare page.
- **ZONING:** *Under “State Councils & Laws” icon → “Zoning” we have a Power Point*  
***Why Horses Make Good Neighbors in Connecticut*** [Horses Make Good Neighbors redo 2025](#)

**Pre-Harvest Site Walk DEEP Pre-Harvest Site Walk - 1/30/26** - DEEP Forestry will host a pre-harvest site walk at **3 PM on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**. CHC received notice from Daniel Evans, DEEP Forestry Division of a commercial harvest to occur in James L. Goodwin State Forest in 2026. The 36-acre harvest, prescribed in the DEEP-approved management plan for the forest, will be initiated with the goal of restoring oak forest in an area substantially impacted by spongy moth defoliations and subsequent mortality of upper canopy oaks. The prescribed shelterwood harvest will retain the healthiest seed-producing oaks while removing slower growing, poorly formed, and suppressed trees preferentially. The harvest will create a two-aged forest structure supporting a widely spaced age-class of large diameter dominant oaks while allocating growing space in the forest understory for a new age-class of tree and shrub regeneration from seed and sprouts. Eight-acres of the harvest area will be clear cut and enclosed with a “slash wall” to prohibit white-tailed deer browse and demonstrate the effects targeted deer browse can have on early forest stand development. DEEP feels this demonstration of an emerging forestry concept is well-aligned with the donor goals of James L. Goodwin who specified education and demonstration as key components to DEEP’s management of the forest.

The harvest will remove roughly 84,000 board-feet of sawtimber and over 200-cords of firewood. The work will be carried out by a licensed logging contractor, under the direct monitoring of a DEEP State Lands Forester. The project may take anywhere from 6-months to 1-year+ to complete.

***Please note DEEP requests RSVP for the walk 48-hours in advance – Contact:***

Dan Evans, Forester II – State Lands Management, Bureau of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry  
p: 860.424.4046 | m: 860.324.6668 | [Daniel.Evans@ct.gov](mailto:Daniel.Evans@ct.gov)

#### **No Child Left Inside Events:**

**Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> - Winter Festival** at Burr Pond State Park in Torrington, CT 10 am to 3 pm  
(weather date of Sunday Feb 8<sup>th</sup>)

**Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> - NCLI and Fish with CARE Families in the Parks Program-Family Fishing Day-** at Black Rock State Park in Thomaston, CT 10 am to 3 pm

**Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup> - Dino Day at Dinosaur State Park, Rocky Hill** 10 am to 3 pm

**“Share the Trail” Events** - We are looking for volunteers to set up a small table at local events and/or trail heads to educate hikers, bicyclists and dog walkers on encountering horses. CHC can provide material for the event along with info on the Trails Safe Passing Plan - [PowerPoint Presentation](#). Contact Diane Ciano

## Legislation / Reports / Updates:

- Discussion on E-bikes and incident in Newtown. CHC will work to educate towns on the new law and their responsibility. Ann Marie & Diane will work on getting this out to towns.

**NOTE:** Bill # 7160 was passed into law. It allows for no modifications on the E bikes: the speed limit is left to the towns and no person under 16 can operate an E bike. A person can be charged with a moving violation riding an E bike and no head gear is required. The individual towns are left to regulate the E bikes.

- Discussion also on issues bike users on the Airline and loose dogs at Machimoodus State Park.
- Denise Ciano reports that she still has not heard from Senator Bob Duff on her appointment. CHC and EAC letters will be sent again asking Senator BOB Duff. to address the ongoing issue of not appointing someone for the 5<sup>th</sup> District equestrian representative on the EAC.
- Recommendation letters from EAC and CHC were sent asking Governor Lamont to appoint Ann Marie Seavy-Cioffi to the CT Greenways Council.

### **Kim Bradley DEEP Reports:**

**Recreational Trail Grant Round:** The 2025 CT Recreational Trail Grant round closed on December 18, 2025. Seventy-three external applications and two internal CT DEEP funding requests were received, with over totaling over \$ 20.17 million in requests (this total does NOT include an administrative percentage value). The review process has begun; formal allocation of the Bond Commission funds has not occurred and may be requested following application review.

## State Park & Forest Trail Reports / Updates:

**Meeting Highlights.** The following reports are from the recent CHC meeting on December 2, 2025 and CT Equine Advisory Council (EAC) on **January 8, 2026.**

### **Diane Ciano Reports:**

**Larkin Bridle Trail:** Kowboy Ken and myself met with Oxford officials and a representative from Joyce Trucking regarding getting access to the lot on Christian Street. The lot is leased by Joyce from DEEP.

We discussed how trailer parking for horses can be used again. There was an incident where a horse trailer parked blocked a truck from leaving the parking area for hours which cost the company considerable money.

We also discussed signage for No parking at the adjacent lot, closing of the gate at the pull through lot, along with opening up the old trail behind the lot so that horses can safely access the Larkin Bridle Trail - avoiding riding along Christian Street.

A few weeks later, Ken met with Mr. Joyce. The CHC sent a letter thanking him. We will work on getting the signs done, perhaps a kiosk and finding a volunteer group to clear the trail before we let the equestrian community know it's available for use.

- *Kim Bradley: Suggested we notify Lindsay Suhr – DEEP Land Acquisition and Management Office Director to let her know about this so that when the lease is up - the DEEP can take this over as an official parking lot for horse trailers. This would also be a time to contact her on the "Passive Recreation" definition that does not include horses.*

**Diane:** *I talked with DEEP Jeff Dery, Unit Supervisor. He said that those piles of dirt reported was stoned dust and as it rains and packs down, you'll see more of the stone dust. I told him there were some low spots that could use some more and he said when he had time he would do that. He also mentioned about*

*work on the Towantic Hill Rd Hill section and that it needs more engineering to get the water to drain off the trail, but there is talk on getting it done.*

*I also mentioned to him about the Naugatuck State Forest parking lot in Oxford. He said there is talk about it but right now the power company is in there. He said to send an estimate and idea of what we wanted on the parking lot. I told him we could apply for a grant if DEEP will approve it.*

**DEEP Contact Info:** Jeff Dery, Unit Supervisor, Jared Rice (Black Rock SP) and cc Jeremy Hall, CC

- **Kim Bradley DEEP Reports:**

**Larkin Trail:** CT DEEP staff have been meeting internally to move the design work ahead. SLR Consulting Engineers are officially under contract and have completed detailed technical field work for the trail's long-term repairs. There will be opportunities for public input, it is worth providing any recommendations for surfacing materials and designs that support equestrian access.

**Ruth Strontzer Reports:**

**Machimoodus/ Sunrise SP:** The trails appear to be kept in good shape by Ray. Loose dogs are still an issue but the several I ran into the owners had good recall and there was no issue with them and the horses. I had a second sighting of a bear but with the bells on the horses again it moved off in front of us down the trail and then off into the woods. It was in the general area where we had spotted one before. No ear tags that I could see. At some point I'm afraid it will run into some of the off-leash dogs which may not end well.

**Wadsworth Falls SP:** Trails seem to be in good shape but there is a massive amount of downed dead wood in the park and there is a potential for a wild fire. CTRA held a ride there in November and Martin had offered to open the area under the pines for horse trailer parking. I called and made the arrangements. It worked out perfect the gates were opened prior to the first trailer arriving. With both gates open it became a drive through and there was no backing or turning rigs around. 13 trucks and trailers were parked there which opened the parking lot to the General public kept people away from the horses and rigs and turned out to be a win for everyone. Pictures were sent to Martin that day of the trucks parked there and a big thank you for offering it. Attaching a couple of pictures to this report.

**Chatfield Hollow SP:** – The trails and dirt roads seem to be in good shape but ran into a lot of dogs off leash there again. The covered bridge has been rebuilt but when I was there. It was taped off.

**Hurd SP:** What trails I was able to ride seemed to be in good shape I was there Dec 1st and the main gate was already locked. In the past had been left open until into Jan for hunters to go down into the

**Higganum Meadow WMA:**

**Hurd SP** – What trails I was able to ride seemed to be in good shape I was there Dec 1st and the main gate to Hurd was already locked. In the past during hunting season that gate had been left open until into Jan for hunters to go into the Hurd in order to reach the Higganum Meadow WMA to hunt.

Riding in Hurd we found that there were several trees with damage from beavers on the red trail that runs along the river. So far nothing has dropped on to the trail. Little guy has big ambitions if he is planning to dam the CT River.

**Note:** *The Higganum Meadow WMA shares boundaries with Hurd and the George Dudley Seymore SP*

**Meg Sautter Reports:** For the 3-month period of Oct thru Dec 2025, I did not ride at all. I hiked Cedar Mountain in Newington and did lots of clipping and clearing. Reported the guy living in a tent to the PD. PD told him to vacate. As of January 2026, he is still there.

**Mooween SP:** The new parking lot is great and will accommodate horse trailers.

**Vevette Greenberg Reports:****Larkin Bridle Trail**

Rode the Larkin trail on Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup>. From Christian Street to Wooster. The trail was in good shape. The ladies I rode with were very pleased with the repair we did to the private part of the Larkin Trail at Towantic Hill Road. We also rode some of the Larkin trails off of the bridle trail. I was surprised we did not come across any fallen trees. We had some high winds just a few days before that.

Big thanks to Diane and Cowboy Ken, They went and met with the First selectman and also ran into a man from Joyce Trucking. He told them the property was owned by the DEEP. I found that funny that the town land records say it is owned by Town of Oxford. Also, that the secretary wanted us to give her all this info so the first selectman could do some research before meeting with us. (which has taken almost 2 years) Clearly he never did, because even he didn't know it was not owner by the town. The end results is, we can use the lot for horse trailer parking. But they will continue to keep the gate chained but not locked.

**Naugatuck Forest**

In October I rode the Naugatuck Forest trails around the reservoirs. They were also in good shape. Met three hunters that told me they were hunting Squirrels. They were courteous and did not shoot while I was nearby.

**Danielle Borrelli Reports:**

The only Trail report that I have is for Chatfield Hollow because I went there on Saturday. The main road was mostly clear of snow, although I'm assuming by now it should be fully clear. Some of the smaller back trails (that probably wouldn't be too good for horses anyway) had tree trees down on the blue and white trails. Buck Road was clear as was the road by the swamp, Schubert Rd. Both were covered in snow and some slippery spots while I was there but again with the warmer temps this week. I'm sure they're clearing out nicely.

**Old Business - Follow Up**

**Go over CHC Goals presented to DEEP in 2024: Where are the CHC requests on DEEP Priority List?**

- Horse trailer parking to accommodate equestrians. Trailer Parking – Gave list of parks and forests that need trailer access.

**Cockaponset SF.**

- **Kim Bradley DEEP Reports: Cockaponset State Forest: Weber Woods Parking:** I met on site at the Weber Woods parking area with Martin T on Nov. 20 2025. We reviewed the area for potential re-establishment of cut through from main road. Martin expressed concern about the turning radius issues with this proposal, and whether there are alternative options for upgrades in the location for access and sightline. We also visited and discussed an alternative of a new parking proposal for the section forest across the road from Messerschmidt Pond WMA water access. Martin T also noted that it would be beneficial to investigate any potential of acquiring 489 Stevenston Rd.
- *Diane will follow up with Ruth to ask Kim for a date to meet with her and Martin regarding the possible parking areas for horse trailers and to view site(s) for a campground..*
- **Naugatuck State Forest:** Parking lot to be expanded to allow horse trailer access  
*Diane will follow up with Kim for meeting with her and Jeff Dery, Unit Supervisor, Jared Rice (Black Rock SP) and cc Jeremy Hall, to look at the proposed parking area to be reconstructed to allow horse trailer parking access.*
- **Goodwin State Forest:** Update needed on parking for horse trailers  
*Diane will contact DEEP Matt Quinn & Eric Gileau, Eastern District Operations Supervisor*
- **Uniform DEEP Policy for safe bridges** to be built that will accommodate horses/emergency vehicle or water crossings that can be designed with minimal impact.

- **Campsites available to equestrians** in various parts of the state (*Machimoodus & Cockaponset first locations*)
- **Uniform DEEP Policy for proper footing put down for multiple use** (stone dust)
- **Signage needed at our Parks and Forests**
  - ***Kim Bradley DEEP Reports: CT DEEP Signage Policy:*** An internal trail signage policy for CT DEEP has been internally accepted and with some minor additions will move toward acceptance. The Trail Etiquette sign recommended by Horse Council is included. Signage printing is required. Trail Safe Passing Plan - [PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- **“Passive Recreation” definition** does not include horses: ( Either list or change to non-motorized)
- **Discussion on DEEP policy on Land Acquisition.**  
*Diane will follow up on the two above goals with Lindsay Suhr Land Acquisition and Management Office Director – DEEP and to include Larkin Bridle trail access*

#### **Follow up:**

- ***Ruth Strontzer’s report: Higganum Meadow WMA:*** – *Where they had brush hogged has grown backup and there appears to have more grass than invasive plants, However the untouched portions just continue to worsen. The entire meadow needs to be mowed. Given the location and scope of the meadow I don’t think a controlled burn is possible. Mowing it consecutive years will help knock down the invasive plants. \* Discussion on Danielle Borrell’s earlier report that she made regarding using goats to address the issue.*

***Kim Bradley Response:*** A letter of complaint/suggestion to the DEEP Deputy Commissioner Mason Trumble and cc DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes, and Justin Davis.

*Diane asked Danielle to work on letter of complaint/suggestion that the meadow is not properly mowed or maintained regularly and ask that the DEEP follow the guidelines already established to maintain and restore grasslands. And to include a previous letter/report suggesting utilizing goats. Diane will contact Ruth to help out with this historical area and how it was previously maintained*

- **Machimoodus / Sunrise State Park:**  
 Start conversations of possible dog area with Ray Knoop and Friends of Machimoodus due to ongoing issues with loose dogs. September 15, 2025 injury to horseback rider caused by dog . CHC had mentioned in previous meeting that DEEP consider setting aside a large designated area for dogs to be let loose in confined area.  
**Sunrise** - Meadow field (old airplane landing strip) is very overgrown with invasives It needs a controlled burn or to be brush hogged.

Kick rail boards installed on bridges.

#### **Dates to be set with Kim:**

- **Paugussett State Forest, Newtown – Boat Launch – Trailer Parking** with Yolanda at the DEEP Boating Division at 860-434-8638 or [deep.boating@ct.gov](mailto:deep.boating@ct.gov)  
*Kim will work on setting a date with Yolanda*
- **Naugatuck State Forest** to view proposed parking improvements.  
*Can possibly include going to Paugussett the same day?*
- **Cockaponset State Forest: Possible trailer parking, campsite** to review the area with John G and Martin to discuss trailer parking and camping. Follow up discussion on access to Weber Woods and Kick rail boards installed on bridges.

***NOTE:*** CHC will continue discussion of a possible site for a horse camp and bridges being repaired or new bridges to be built in the future that can also be addressed in the CT Trail Plan that will be revised.

## **Horse Owner's Corner- Timely Tips – How do I make sure the barn is safe?**

**Dr. Jenifer Nadeau, UConn Equine Extension Specialist and CHC Education Chair**

### **Horse Owner's Corner- Timely Tips – How do I make sure the barn is safe?**

**Dr. Jenifer Nadeau, UConn Equine Extension Specialist and CHC Education Chair**

Safety first! That was drilled into me as a young horse handler and rider and I am grateful for it. Although most injuries with horses happen while riding a horse, horse owners and enthusiasts should strive to keep the barn as safe as possible as well since an accident can happen at any time. A recent study found that more than 38% of horse related injuries occurred at home, with 11.7% of injuries occurring in the pasture, 7.5% in the barn and 0.8% in the round pen.

Although we tend to think mainly of barn fires or other weather issues as a source of injury to horses, they can also be injured in the barn when there are no weather issues.

Common ways people can be injured in the barn is by being kicked or stepped on and injuries from a lead rope, lunge line or rein. There are many ways we can prevent these injuries in the barn. We will focus on these aspects: keeping aisles clear and safe, properly maintaining facilities and having a safe area to wash the horse. A person may be kicked or stepped on if there is inadequate space for them to move away when a horse spooks or acts out due to fear. Injuries that arise from using a lead rope lunge line or rein generally happen when someone wraps their hand in the rope, lunge line or rein. This can result in constriction, sprains or being dragged. Never wrap anything attached to a horse or other animal around any part of you ever!! Keeping aisles clear and safe is very important:

- Never allow people to bring motorized vehicles, bikes, scooters, or hoverboards into the barn. These can result in the horse becoming frightened and getting tangled in these items or the horse spooking and landing on a foot or knocking a person over. If the barn is a therapeutic riding place, horses should first be desensitized to such equipment BEFORE it comes into the barn.
- Avoid cluttering the aisle with tack trunks, storage bins, tools and chairs. Keep them in a tack room out of the way, for example.
- Make sure aisles are large enough, 10-12 feet wide is recommended
- Aisles should have non-slip footing
- Eaves should be at least 10-12 feet high to allow for clearance
- Riding in the barn should be prohibited
- Ensure that stalls prevent the horse from putting its head in the aisle which could lead to a horse or person from being bitten
- Make sure that stall side racks for bridles, halters or saddles are constructed so that a passing horse does not get caught on them (making them rounded or collapsible, for example)
- Keep trash cans away from horse traffic areas
- Have adequate lighting for the aisles and stalls

Here are some suggestions for properly maintaining facilities:

- Have a perimeter gate that can be closed

- Make sure the parking areas are maintained for winter and do not develop ruts or holes that could lead to a person or horse being injured
- Make sure all gate latches work properly
- If stall doors slide, make sure they fit firmly into the tracks and cannot come out of them which could result in a horse getting its hoof or leg caught
- If stall doors swing, make sure they stay open once they are opened, because the door could hit the horse and cause it to spook or run forward which could lead to them running into the person leading them
- Make sure partitions are constructed to prevent a horse getting a hoof caught (less than 4 inches from ground)
- Make sure partitions are strong enough to withstand a kick by a horse (1 ¾ inch minimum thickness, hardwood preferred)
- Use wood of a fire-retardant type
- Be sure all electrical wiring is enclosed in conduit and up to code
- Have a safety breaker on all electrical outlets
- Have protective covers on outlets and wall switches
- Ensure that wires to radios, fans or fence chargers are protected from horses, rodents and water
- Avoid using extension cords, especially for space heaters which can increase risk for fire
- Install smoke alarms and check the batteries regularly
- Have fire extinguishers available throughout the barn; check with your local fire department for proper placement. A rule of thumb states that there should be a fire extinguisher 50-75 feet from any location in your barn.
- Check and/or recharge fire extinguishers on an annual basis
- Have adequate ventilation for human and animal health, including the hay loft especially if hay is stored there
- Make sure that windows are made of non-breakable material and protect them from horse access with bars, slats or screens
- Check for heat in hay bales after storage

Here are some suggestions for the wash rack:

- Make sure the floor is non-skid
- Post that horses should not be tied during bathing
- Keep all light fixtures out of reach of a rearing horse
- Prevent clutter in the wash rack
- Keep electrical outlets and switches near the wash rack protected from water
- Feed the hose from overhead rather than under foot to prevent entanglement or tripping
- Have adequate drainage
- Locate the wash rack away from heavy traffic areas

Safety should be top of mind for all horse owners and enthusiasts. Although horses can be unpredictable, there are many things that can be done to keep horses and humans safe. By keeping these tips in mind, you should be able to help ensure your barn is a safe haven for all. I hope that you have fun with your horse this winter. Stay safe! Please call (860) 486-4471 or email [jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu](mailto:jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu) if you have any questions. Also, check out my web site <https://animalscience.cahnr.uconn.edu/uconn-equine-extension-program/> for more information on upcoming horse specialist events and other information. Here is a link to some fact sheets that may be of interest <https://animalscience.cahnr.uconn.edu/fact-sheets/> . Thanks, and have fun with your horses!

#### Sources and Resources

1. Muir S., Brown A. Edward T. Equestrian Related Injuries: A National Database Study. 2024. Journal of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics. Vol 8:1.  
<https://aoao.org/2024/04/24/equestrian-related-injuries-a-national-database-study/>
2. Camargo F., Gombeski W., Barger P., Jehlik C., Wiemers H., Mead J., Lawyer, A. Horse-related injuries: Causes, preventability, and where educational efforts should be focused. 2018. Cogent Food & Agriculture. Vol 4:1.  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322799953\\_Horse-related\\_injuries\\_Causes\\_preventability\\_and\\_where\\_educational\\_efforts\\_should\\_be\\_focused](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322799953_Horse-related_injuries_Causes_preventability_and_where_educational_efforts_should_be_focused)
3. VT Dept of Agriculture, University of VT, VT Horse Council and American Association for Horsemanship Safety, Inc. Self-Guided Horse Facility Analysis. 2001. Brochure.

## Connecticut Horse Symposium

### Saturday, March 7, 2026 9AM – 1:30PM

### UConn Horsebarn Hill Arena

Enjoy our fun event with heated seating!

Spectators please park in the paved lot to the right of the arena. Horse trailers only in the dirt lot to the left of the arena.

Pay at the door (cash or check payable to UConn ONLY) or  
auditors/spectators click [here](#) to pay online! Riders click [here](#) to sign up for  
sessions!

Click [here](#) to help sponsor this event!

Click [here](#) to be a vendor!

At the event, participants and spectators will join Melissa Tindall for a clinic where horses and riders will gain confidence and skills combining dressage principles with groundwork and pole work. Riders from all disciplines can learn the correct use of aids for lateral work on the ground to further their understanding when mounted. They can then work on improving balance and rhythm in the saddle over poles and cavaletti.

Melissa Tindall is an FEI rider and earned her USDF Bronze medal on her self-trained mare who she is currently competing at Prix St. George. She is the Coach of the UConn Dressage team, teaches riding at UConn and travels to teach locally. She was an apprentice with FEI rider and USDF Instructor faculty member Melanie Tenney, where she went through the BHS Instructor Training Program. Melissa began her riding career in hunter jumpers and eventing but has concentrated on dressage for the last 25 years. She focuses on positive teaching and training methods utilizing in-hand work, in addition to mounted work, to encourage connection and understanding of both students and horses.

#### **Session 1: In Hand Lateral Work 9-10 AM**

Learn the how, when and why in asking/teaching horses to move laterally using dressage principles on the ground.

#### **Session 2: Advanced Pole Exercises and Cavaletti 10-11 AM**

For riders who are comfortable walk/trot/canter over multiple ground poles and cavaletti in more complex patterns. More advanced exercises designed to help the rider find balance and rhythm using dressage principles for both dressage and jumping.

#### **Session 3: Basic Pole Exercises 11 AM -12 PM**

For riders who are comfortable walk/trot over ground poles and comfortable cantering a single pole. Basic exercises designed to help the rider find balance and rhythm using dressage principles.

**11:30-1 Lunch Available On Site - Pizza and Beverages - To Benefit UConn Equine Club**

**12:00-1:30 PM Approximately - Demonstrations by the UConn Teams!**

**Short break then demonstration by the UConn Dressage Team, followed by the UConn Equestrian Team and then UConn Polo!**

Sign up for a session(s)

at: [https://secure.touchnet.com/C21646\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=905](https://secure.touchnet.com/C21646_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=905)

Just want to be an auditor/spectator? Register here

[https://secure.touchnet.com/C21646\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=906](https://secure.touchnet.com/C21646_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=906)

## CT Horse Council Membership – 2026

*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](mailto:membership@cthorsecouncil.org) 860-344-1804

* = Volunteer Horse Patrol Members = WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	
2026 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS Welcome – Thank You !	2026 FAMILY MEMBERS Welcome – Thank You !
<i>Daniel Barnett – Providence, RI</i> <i>John Bennett – Putnam</i> <i>Carol Birdsey – Middletown</i> <i>Sally Carter – Nashua, NH</i> <i>*Jean Casella – Higganum</i> <i>Rain Chocholka – Waterbury</i> <i>*Denise Ciano – Wolcott</i> <i>*Diane Ciano – Plymouth</i> <i>*Susan Crawford – Hampton</i> <i>Paul DeNio – New Hartford</i> <i>Michelle Dubner – West Hartford</i> <i>*Kowboy Ken Forcier – Oxford</i> <i>*Vevette Greenberg – Oxford</i> <i>Cathy Latulipe – Torrington</i> <i>Lisa Mazzotta-Ivaldi – Glastonbury</i> <i>Karen Muller – Bethany</i> <i>Debbie O'Donnell – Allenstown, NH</i> <i>Carol Parker – New Fairfield</i> <i>Katie Richards – Bethel</i> <i>*Janet Samperi – North Haven</i> <i>Celeste Santos-Rivera – Voluntown</i> <i>*Meg Sautter – Newington</i> <i>Marcia Sigman – Portland</i> <i>Maryann Smith – Salem</i> <i>*Ruth Strontzer – Haddam</i> <i>Anna Tardif – Lebanon</i> <i>Aubrey Tarr – Willimantic</i> <i>Bethany Thatcher – Sandy Hook</i> <i>Karen von Bachelles – South Windsor</i> <i>Teresa Waitkins – Stafford Springs</i>	<b>FAMILY MEMBERS</b> <i>*Cathy &amp; Jim Clouse – Cheshire</i> <i>*Joel &amp; Joanne Conte – Southington</i> <i>Ted Hintz – Middle Haddam</i> <i>Carolann Keeley – Wilton</i> <i>*Ed &amp; Patricia Levin – Bristol</i> <i>Carla &amp; Bob Lord – Southbury</i> <i>Alice &amp; Neil Marrinan Family – Oakdale</i> <i>Don &amp; Jean Nordell – East Windsor</i> <b>2026 SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS</b> <b>Welcome – Thank You !</b> <b>Connecticut Trail Rides Association</b> <b>2026 BUSINESS MEMBERS</b> <b>Welcome – Thank You ! See ads below</b> <b>B. &amp; H Blacksmith &amp; Farrier LLC</b> Bud Dore & Hannah Calbick – 860/309-4025 <b>Doug Dubitsky, Esq. Equine Law</b> Windham 860-808-8601 <b>Drafty Pines Farm – Central Village</b> Emily Chaplin 860-564-4037 <b>Dream Hill Farm – East Haddam</b> Victoria Conlin 860-682-0834 <b>Express Your Pet – Rocky Hill</b> Laurianne Goulet 860-563-7387 <b>Neigh.com – Boxford MA</b> Lauren Pire-Vocell 978- 409-5748 <b>Rebel Therapy – North Guilford</b> Rebecca Baker 860-398- 0831 <b>United Ag &amp; Turf – East Windsor</b> Russell Baker 860-623-8296

## 2026 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.*

**B&H Blacksmith  
& Farriery LLC**  
(860)-309-4025  
Bud Dore, CJF  
Hannah Calbick, CF  
b.hfarriery@gmail.com  
Morris, CT 06763



**DOUG DUBITSKY, ESQ.**  
**EQUINE LAW**  
**860-808-8601**  
[doug@lawyer.com](mailto:doug@lawyer.com)

**Drafty Pines Farm**  
Emily & Daniel Chaplin  
70 South Cady Lane  
Central Village, CT 06374  
860-564-4037  
[www.draftypinesfarm.com](http://www.draftypinesfarm.com)  
email: [draftypinesfarm@ibcglobal.net](mailto:draftypinesfarm@ibcglobal.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.



Horse Programs - Equine Events - Horse Boarding  
East Haddam - Victoria Conlin 860-682-0834

**Express Your Pet**  
Grooming • Boarding • Daycare  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (860) 563-7387  
Time: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.expressyourpet.com](http://www.expressyourpet.com)  
945 Cromwell Ave., Rocky Hill, CT 06067



**Neigh.com**  
Boxford MA  
Lauren  
978- 409-5748

**Rebel Therapy**  
Bovine & Equine Therapy  
Cold Fascia Mobilization & Cyro Therapy  
Rebecca Baker 860-398- 0831

**United Ag & Turf**  
119 S. Main St, East Windsor, CT  
Russell Baker [\(860\) 623-8296](tel:8606238296)

## **The Connecticut Horse Council Meeting Dates for 2026**

Meetings are held at **6:30 PM**  
Eversource Community Room  
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 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the months of:

Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

## 2026-2027 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](mailto:DianeMCiano@gmail.com)

### **Chairman of the Board**

**Stewart Beckett, III, DVM**

Glastonbury, CT

### **Committee Chairs:**

#### **Animal Health and Welfare**

Laurianne Goulet

[CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org)

### **1st Vice President**

**Laurianne Goulet**

Cromwell, CT

860-997-6434

[CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org)

### **Board of Directors:**

**Denise Ciano**

Wolcott, CT

**Kowboy Ken Forcier**

Oxford, CT

### **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](mailto:jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu)

### **2nd Vice President**

**Meg Sautter**

Newington, CT

**Vevette Greenberg**

Oxford, CT

**Gary Rutkauskas**

Plymouth, CT

### **Legislative**

**OPEN**

### **3rd Vice President**

**Randy Olmstead**

Terryville, CT

**Ann Marie Seavy-Cioffi**

Danbury, CT

**Ruth Strontzer,**

Haddam, CT

### **Publicity / Newsletter**

**Diane Ciano**

**Ann Marie Seavy-Cioffi**

### **Treasurer**

**Laurianne Goulet**

Cromwell, CT

### **Road Safe**

**Diane Ciano**

### **Membership Secretary**

**Carol Birdsey**

Middletown, CT

[membership@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:membership@cthorsecouncil.org)

### **Trails**

**Diane Ciano**

[DianeMCiano@gmail.com](mailto:DianeMCiano@gmail.com)

### **Recording Secretary**

**Carol Birdsey**

Middletown, CT

860-344-1804

[membership@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:membership@cthorsecouncil.org)

### **Web Site**

**Laurianne Goulet**

[CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:CTHorse911@cthorsecouncil.org)

### **Zoning**

**Cory Iacino**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2026

## 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

P.O. Box 57

Durham, CT 06422-0057

[www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_