

A horse adopted from End of the Road Ranch comes with an honest assessment. Our goal is to find a horse that fits into your lifestyle, your home and your heart.

Reasonably, rescue horses know that they've been rescued. There is a sense of appreciation which is exhibited, and becomes evident, in their willingness to understand requests. Where respect is reciprocated, a true human-horse partnership will develop, and a journey will begin.

As a member of the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, End of the Road Ranch has agreed to follow the guidelines set forth in their policies. Our adoption policy focusses on placing horses in qualified homes and all applications will be considered based on your ability to provide the best home for the horse. The adoption fee helps us recover some of the cost of caring for the horse while in our care and allows us to continue our operation to rescue, bringing back health and finding homes for other horses.

If you are qualified, we want more than anything for you to adopt one of our horses. The primary step is for you to actually put your hands on the horse of your dreams. Horses should never be adopted just because they "look pretty". This is hopefully a lifelong commitment that you are making to the horse, so take your time and make certain that what you are seeing is really what you want.

If, during the inspections, we find some problem areas we will advise you on how to bring them up to our minimum standards of care.

After your adoption is complete, we will conduct periodic inspections. These inspections have two goals:

To be of assistance to you in case there are any problems with the horse.
To make certain that the horse is doing well in the new environment.

The horse adopted from us is not to be used for breeding, cannot be sold, transferred, leased, or moved without notifying us. Once adopted, we want the horse to stay with you for the remainder of the horse's life. If something happens and you can no longer keep the horse, you'll need to contact us and we'll make arrangements for the horse's return to End of the Road Ranch.

Regulations for Adoptions

The following guidelines are for general equine management and are required of all persons adopting a horse from End of the Road Ranch. While not exhaustive, they offer basic parameters for responsible equine ownership. In addition, any individual keeping horses must comply with all relevant state and local law.

General Management Practices

Various types of enclosure are available to confine equines, including, but not limited to: stalls, dry lots or pastures. In addition, equines shall be provided sufficient opportunity and space to exercise daily and have freedom of movement as necessary to reduce stress and maintain good physical condition. Space and provisions for exercise shall be appropriate for the age, condition and size of the equine.

Group pasturing of compatible equines to allow social interaction is encouraged. If equines are individually stalled, they must be able to make visual contact with other equines, unless otherwise directed by a veterinarian for the safety of the equine in question or other equines at the facility.

Facility Requirements

The following are requirements in order to foster an equine. However, all applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis:

Pasture

A minimum of half-acre pasture per equine on the property. Exceptions may be made in those cases where the equine will be maintained at a boarding facility provided the equine, if stalled, is provided daily turnout of an adequate time and space.

Shelter

A recommended 12×12-foot stall per standard size equine in barn with turnout or pasture; or a three-sided run-in shelter with a recommended 12×12 feet per equine in pasture, however, the minimum acceptable space is 10.5×10.5-foot stall or run-in area per standard size equine.

Equines shall be provided with shelter that gives protection from extreme weather including but not limited to: prevailing wind, snow, sleet, rain, sun, and temperature extremes. Stalls and shelters shall be constructed to provide sufficient space for each equine to turn around, lie down, and move freely and to allow free air flow. Shelters may be constructed to have removable sides during the summer. All enclosures, stalls and/or shelters shall be kept in good repair and free of standing water, accumulated waste, sharp objects and debris. If the barn or shelter is metal, the exposed metal on the inside of the stall and/or shelter shall be covered with ¾" -1" plywood or 2"x6" boards. There should be no exposed nails or other objects that could potentially cause injury to the equine.

Water

The adopter shall provide troughs or individual water sources to offer adequate and clean water for all equines. All water receptacles shall be kept clean and free of hazardous contaminants and be positioned or affixed to minimize spillage. Use of defroster to prevent freezing in inclement

weather is recommended. Equines that are being trained, worked, ridden or transported shall be provided water as often as necessary for their health and comfort. Frequency of watering shall take into consideration the age, condition and size of the equine, activity level and climatic conditions.

Food

Equines shall receive at a minimum the equivalent of 3% of their body weight per day in high quality forage and grain. If natural forage is insufficient in quality or quantity, quality hay representative of choice grasses in the local area shall supplement the diet. Diet shall be planned with consideration for the age, condition, size, and activity level of the equine. If more than one animal is fed at the same place and time, it shall be the responsibility of the adopter to ensure that each equine receives nutrition in sufficient quantity. If necessary, equines shall be separated to ensure each has access to adequate nutrition without interference from more dominant equine. Individual feed buckets or pans should be provided for each equine. All storage and feeding receptacles shall be kept clean and free.

Fencing

Fencing shall be of solid construction, without sharp edges and visible to equines; electric fencing is acceptable. The use of barbed wire fencing is unacceptable in any area of five or less acres or along any side of any area separating equines from one another. Use of electric wire may preclude the barbed wire provision. All t-posts shall be appropriately capped when used as cross fencing to separate pastures, along any fence line adjacent to another equine property or/and property that is less than five acres. Fencing shall be monitored on a regular basis to ensure its safety and effectiveness is maintained. NO 4×4 Wire fencing!

Vaccinations, Dental Care, Hoof Care, Worming and Coggins

Yearly vaccinations are required. Eastern/Western Encephalitis, Rhino, Tetanus, Rabies, West Nile and any other inoculations your veterinarian recommends for endemic diseases are mandatory. Teeth must be kept in good condition and should be checked by a licensed veterinarian annually. All equine must be kept on a regular deworming program as approved by a licensed Veterinarian. Proper hoof care is required to be done as often as necessary to maintain sound hooves.

Maintaining Health

All equine must maintain weight and condition as described by the Henneke Scoring System (see attached description) between Moderate (5) and Fleishy (7) unless under the direction of a licensed veterinarian. Cuts, sores and illnesses which normal animal husbandry practices would require veterinarian care must be attended to immediately by a licensed veterinarian.

Gelding

All stallions shall be gelded as soon as possible unless, under the advice of a licensed veterinarian, such gelding would cause harm to the equine due to age or health.