FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 4, 2010

Contact: Deb Balliet Equine Land Conservation Resource 859-455-8383 www.ELCR.org dballiet@elcr.org

ELCR Announces Speaking and Consulting Capacity

Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) has been speaking and consulting for over a decade, working to advance the conservation of land for horse-related activity. This capacity has been recently expanded and formalized.

ELCR has a broad array of presentation and consulting topics for equine/equestrian, conservation, trail, community, agency or association meetings or organizations. They include:

- 1. An Introduction to Equine Land Protection Issues and Solutions
- 2. A Community Land Use Planning Primer: Essential Information for Horsemen
- 3. Rural Preservation Strategies & Farmland Protection Tools
- 4. A Farmland Protection Primer: Know the Basics
- 5. Effectively Advocate for your Equestrian Trails
- 6. Leave No Trace for Horse Use: The Ethic and the Principles
- 7. Strength in Clusters: Equine Economic Development
- 8. Urban & Suburban Equestrians: Here's How to Protect What You Have
- 9. Developing Community Trail Systems Using Public & Private Lands

Of course, custom topics can be developed to suit organization needs, as well.

The excellence present in ELCR's speaking engagements is well documented. After the 2009 Southeastern Equestrian Trails Conference, Steve deLyra had this to say: "I want to thank you and Laurel for the excellent presentation you gave at the Southeastern Equestrian Trails Conference... As someone who loves to ride trails I was very pleased to learn about the Equine Land Conservation Resource and the effort you are putting forth to conserve existing land for equine use - and for helping to establish additional lands."

"Speaking for equestrian groups is really one of my great passions," added Chief Executive Officer Deb Balliet. "The greatest challenge facing the equine community with regards to land loss is that many people aren't aware of the crisis until it's too late. Speaking allows us to educate more and more people, as well as helping organizations to address issues that are pressing to their members."

ELCR can also offer consultations on any of the above issues. Earlier in the year, ELCR worked with a group of landowners concerned about a piano key development in the midst of historic horse country. Joan P. Mayer, one of the landowners, wrote "...the two of us worked as a team to stop this dreadful invasion. In a remarkably short time, she put together a professional presentation booklet containing all the legal reasons a development should not be allowed in this locale...It was quickly determined that the developer would create havoc if allowed to proceed. At this time, he has 'temporarily' withdrawn his petition to develop in the threatened area. I want you to know how very much I appreciate Deb and your association's efforts on our behalf."

"One of the most effective ways to accomplish our mission is to participate in consulting," explained President Nancy Hamill Winter. "ELCR has a amazing network of resources and is always happy to be on the front lines."

As a not-for-profit educational organization, ELCR does not have a fee schedule, but donations are welcome and encouraged to cover staff time, travel and accommodations. ELCR's Conservation Partner's and youth groups will receive priority.

Please contact Deb Balliet at <u>dballiet@elcr.org</u> or (859) 455-8383 for more information or to schedule a speaking engagement or consulting call.

About the Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR)

The Equine Land Conservation Resource is the only national not-for-profit organization advancing the conservation of land for horse-related activity. ELCR serves as an information resource and clearinghouse for land and horse owners on issues related to equine land conservation, land use planning, land stewardship/best management practices, trails, liability and equine economic development. If you want to know more about ELCR, visit our website at www.elcr.org or call (859) 455-8383.