Horse facilities come with many unanticipated costs and challenges. Changing local regulations, damage from storms and other weather events, and limited resources interrupt day-to-day operations. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are practical tactics designed to mitigate the cost and impact of these challenges.

To help horse facility managers and owners manage through these issues, ELCR, with support from the Dudley T. Dougherty Foundation, has developed a BMP guide. The guide, entitled *Best Management Practices Can Help Your Bottom Line*, is a series of articles that introduce the basics of BMP’s that any horse facility manager needs to know. The articles are designed to serve as an introduction and include links to local resources for more specialized information. Individual articles cover the following topics:

**Managing Soil**
- Pasture Management
- Pasture Edges and Gateways
- Manure Management
- Soil Conditions and Soil Protection
- Sacrifice Lots

**Managing Water**
- Infiltration Basins and Rain Gardens
- Vegetated Buffers
- Natural and Engineered Wetlands
- Healthy Streams for Water Quality

**Planning and Managing Horse Facilities**
- Site Planning
- Paving Surfaces
- Wildlife Friendly Fencing
- End of Life Issues

Russell Martin, of Show-Me Missouri Backcountry Horsemen, Receives 2013 Anson W. Taylor, Jr. Award

ELCR President Susan Harding presented the 2013 Anson W. Taylor, Jr. Award for Leadership in Equine Land Conservation to Russell Martin, of the Show-Me Missouri Backcountry Horsemen (SMMBCH), at the Back Country Horsemen’s National Board Meeting on April 27th in Rapid City, South Dakota. The award, named for ELCR’s founder and first president, Anson W. Taylor, Jr. recognizes individuals or organizations that demonstrate outstanding leadership in conserving access to land for horse-related uses.

Russell and his wife, Tammie, serve as state-wide equestrian representatives in various capacities, most significantly with Missouri State Parks planning, development and maintenance projects. Martin was instrumental in the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the SMMBCH and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks (DNR). He recently worked with the Mark Twain National Forest to assist with management and maintenance of trails and other equestrian recreation opportunities in the Forest, help provide equestrian input to public land management, and provide Leave No Trace (LNT) training.

To read more about the 2013 Anson W. Taylor, Jr. Award recipient or for additional information about the Anson W. Taylor, Jr. Award, including a list of past award recipients, please visit http://elcr.org/anson-taylor-award/ or contact us by phone.

Bayer HealthCare Animal Health Demonstrates Leadership in Conservation Partners Program

Bayer HealthCare Animal Health continues to take a leadership role in turning the tide on the loss of land for horses and horse-related uses. Bayer will again sponsor Equine Land Conservation Resource’s (ELCR) Conservation Partners Program.

Bayer’s support enables ELCR to provide vital information and resources on equine land conservation to Conservation Partners, which they then share with their members and constituents. Through Bayer’s unwavering commitment to conserving land for horses, conservation partners help ensure that people at the grassroots level have the knowledge and guidance needed to save their horse parks, farms, ranches and hayfields. ELCR’s Conservation Partners currently represent over 1.2 million equestrians across the United States.

ELCR’s partnerships include a diverse collection of member groups such as breed and discipline associations, equestrian parks and facilities, land trusts and government agencies, media companies, event organizers and equine retail and wholesale companies. To learn more about ELCR’s Conservation Partners Program please visit http://elcr.org/partners/conservation-partners/.

Inaugural National Equestrian Trail Conference (NETC) Underscores Industry-Wide Issues

In the inaugural year of its national agenda, the National Equestrian Trails Conference (NETC) took on the issues that threaten the horse industry at large. Formerly known as the South Eastern Trails Conference, NETC’s July meeting in Rock Hill, NC featured a robust line-up of speakers on issues like shared trail usage, urbanization, horse access to land and cultivating the next generation of equestrians.

NETC topics included the role of private lands in horse trails, practical approaches to organizing and responsible use of shared spaces and a youth track that introduced a new trail curriculum for young trail riders. The conference centered on the core issue of keeping our horse trails and horse lands open and accessible. For more on NETC 2013 please visit http://netc2013.com/netc-2013/.

Thanks to our corporate friends:

Equine Network and its fine family of equestrian print and online publications: American Cowboy, Arabian Horse World, Discover Horses, Dressage Today, EquiManagement, Equine.com, EquiSearch.com, EquiShopper, EQUUS, HorseBooksEtc.com, Horse Journal, HorseLinkMagazine.com, Horse & Rider, MyHorse.com, Practical Horseman, Spin to Win Rodeo, and The Trail Rider

Active Interest Media
In spring 2013, ELCR launched the Conservation Membership Program as a direct response to individuals who have expressed an interest in supporting ELCR’s conservation efforts. The program offers both individual and organization membership options with access to special member benefits at affordable rates.

Conservation Members are concerned about keeping land open for horses. From hayfields to horse farms, we know that conservation members are the key to protecting the lands our horses need. The Conservation Members program is designed to provide targeted information, support and engagement opportunities to interested individuals and groups acting at the grassroots level. For additional information about the Conservation Membership program or to join please visit http://elcr.org/partners/conservation-members/ or contact us by phone.

ELCR Saddles up with 2013 USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship!

ELCR was proud to support, long time Conservation Partner, USHJA as a sponsor of the owners’ hats for 2013 USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship. The event had its biggest year yet in terms of entries and prize money.

The attractive white baseball caps distributed to the owners included the horse’s name on the front and both the ELCR and USHJA logos. Congratulations to Liza Boyd and Brunello, her 15-year-old Hanoverian gelding. The pair jumped to the top of the Tier I section of the USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship, held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington on August 17, 2013. For additional information on this exciting event please visit http://www.ushja.org.

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Lexington, KY 40511

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