THE RESOURCE

Reducing Recreational Riding Risk – Liability Laws for Landowners

or landowners opening their land to equestrians, what we see as an idyllic ride can look like a lawsuit waiting to happen. These fears can be eased with an understanding of basic, state-provided protections.

Each state protects landowners who allow people to use their land for recreational purposes with Recreational Land Use laws (RLUs). Forty-six states also have laws specifically protecting landowners who allow horse related uses through an Equine Activity Liability Act (EALA). More information on your state's RLUs and EALA can be found in our *Directory of Equine Activity and Recreational Use Statutes for Horsemen and Landowners*.

Most EALAs require landowners to post warning signs. These signs are inexpensive and readily available. Landowners should consult their state's statutes.

While RLUs and EALAs provide excellent protections for landowners, liability waivers provide important additional protection. Liability waivers provide documentation that the participant has notice of the risks and provide landowners with additional protection. Liability waivers are simple but important legal documents that should be signed by any adult or adult representative of a minor riding on private property.

The full text of this article can be found at https://elcr.org/reducing-recreational-riding/



Many recreational activities rely on the use of private land. Knowing about liability laws can protect access and reassure landowners.

Where will you ride drive race compete raise foals grow hay? **NSERVATION** 4037 Iron Works Parkway Suite 120 Lexington, KY 40511 859-455-8383 Fax 859-455-8381 info@elcr.org www.elcr.org Newsletter design by www.ariongroup.net

Equine Places and Spaces

SAVED: State Park Riding Trails, New Hampshire

Last year, the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) drafted new rules endangering equestrian use of trails in 220 sites. The equine community organized, and after the comment period ended, DRED representatives submitted a new set of rules that were far less harmful to equestrian use.

To learn more, visit: http://bit.ly/1lyJJiP or http://bit.ly/19gPxSW or check out the May issue of Trail Rider magazine.

IN DANGER: Western Riding Club, Flushing, New York

The century old horse stable is in danger of development. The landowner has decided to sell the property to a developer. The community the stable serves is banding together with help from local organizations and businesses.

To find out more, visit: http://nydn.us/MXr8Om or http://youtu.be/vK2Qggv484A

LOST: Shadybrook Stables, McLean, Virginia

After 41 years of service to Fairfax County, Virginia, Shadybrook Stables has closed its doors. The owner of the well-loved stables, Helen Moss, tried to find an interested buyer for the operational stable, but bowed to the daunting zoning process. A developer purchased the land and plans to build houses.

To find out more or visit: http://wapo.st/1k894P2

If you are aware of an equine-related place that has been lost, saved or is in danger, please let us know about it. You can contact us at 859.455.8383 or information@elcr.org, or visit the Report An Issue page on our website.

Thanks to our corporate friends:



Nancy Hamill Winter Honored with National Conservation Service Award

very year, the Land Trust Alliance (LTA), honors one individual who has made "a significant contribution to the advancement of land conservation" with the prestigious National Conservation Service Award. ELCR congratulates 2013 award recipient, Nancy Hamill Winter on her well-deserved recognition.

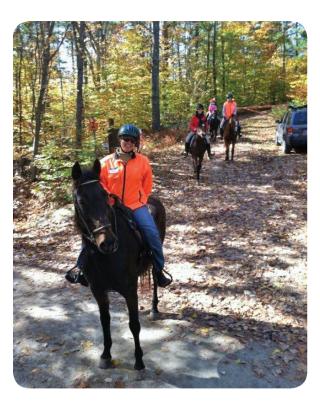
Nancy is a past ELCR president and current Director Emeritus. Nancy is also the past president of the Illinois Chapter of



LTA President, Rand Wentworth, and Nancy Hamill Winter

The Nature Conservancy, and has been closely involved in the establishment of the Prairie State Conservation Coalition. She has served on the boards of the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, The Morton Arboretum, and the Sierra Club – Chicago Chapter.

An accomplished equestrian and certified naturalist, Nancy's volunteer contributions have significantly advanced natural area preservation and restoration in Illinois. For additional information see http://www.landtrustalliance.org/events-news/alliance-news/nancy-hamill-winter-honored-with-national-conservation-service-award.



Thanks to a dedicated equine community, horses and riders will continue to enjoy riding in New Hampshire's state parks.

Directory of Equine Activity and Recreational Use Statutes Now Available

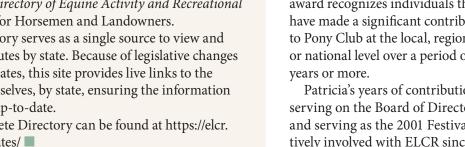
rivately owned land is the most at-risk component of our equestrian landscape.

Landowner liability - and the understanding of it – can be a critical factor in horse access to property.

ELCR has assembled an in-depth resource showing Activity Statutes and Recreational Use Statutes for each state in the Directory of Equine Activity and Recreational *Use Statutes* for Horsemen and Landowners.

The Directory serves as a single source to view and compare statutes by state. Because of legislative changes in different states, this site provides live links to the statutes themselves, by state, ensuring the information will remain up-to-date.

The complete Directory can be found at https://elcr. org/statestatutes/



Patricia Mattingley Receives USPC Founders Award

LCR board member and **♦** officer, Patricia Mattingley ✓ was one of four individuals honored with the Founders' Award at the United States Pony Clubs (USPC) Annual Meeting and Equine Symposium held January 22-26, 2013 in Portland, Oregon. The prestigious award recognizes individuals that have made a significant contribution to Pony Club at the local, regional or national level over a period of 20



Founders Award Recipient, Patricia Mattingley

Patricia's years of contribution to USPC have included serving on the Board of Directors, chairing several committees and serving as the 2001 Festival Chair. Patricia has been actively involved with ELCR since 2008 and is currently serving as Secretary of the Board of Directors. ELCR congratulates Patricia on her well-deserved USPC Founders Award.

THREE-DAY EVENT

PRESENTED BY



ELCR is pleased to be a charitable beneficiary of the 2014 Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event.

Please join us on April 24-27

at the Kentucky Horse Park for this premier 4 star event.

Thanks to our corporate friend: **Active Interest Media**



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

Conservation Partners Spotlight: ACTHA Rides are "Casual Competition, Serious Fun!"

LCR's Conservation Partner, the American Competitive Trail Horse ✓ Association (ACTHA) started out



of a desire for a fun and casually competitive outlet for the recreational trail rider. But it has grown to be so much more with a presence in every state as well as Canada.

ACTHA offers two styles of events, Competitive Trail Challenges (CTC'S) & ACTHA Obstacle Challenges (AOC'S). CTC's are 6-8 mile trail rides which offer voluntary obstacles. Hundreds of CTC's are hosted on private and public lands every year. AOC's are held in arenas and feature 8-16 obstacles.

Both types of events are provided through ACTHA's "Host a Ride" program. Rides can be hosted by individuals, clubs or organizations. For the host, the ride is a money making opportunity, and ACTHA donates part of the gross proceeds to an equine related charity or nonprofit. Over the past 6 years hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised for charity with this method.

Throughout the past year, ACTHA has been a valuable partner. Managing Member, Tom Scrima, explains, "ACTHA embraces the work of ELCR. Without open lands, trail rides and ACTHA, along with our mission as guardian of the horse, simply would fade into obscurity. The invaluable work of ECLR is paramount to protecting our heritage and that of the trail horse that literally built this country." To learn more about ACTHA, visit www.actha.us. ■





4037 Iron Works Parkway Suite 120 Lexington, KY 40511

	Su	pp	ort	EL	CF
--	----	----	-----	----	----

I	wish	to	support	ELCR	with	my	gift of:	
---	------	----	---------	------	------	----	----------	--

- □ \$2,500 □ \$1,000
 - 000 🖵 \$750
- □ \$500 □ \$250
 - \$250 🔲 \$100
- **□** \$50 **□** \$25
- □ \$25 □ \$_____
- ☐ I wish to join ELCR as an individual Conservation Member (\$28)

Send completed form with check to:



Equine Land
Conservation Resource
4037 Iron Works
Parkway, Suite 120
Lexington, KY 40511

Name:				
Address:				
City:	State: Zip:			
Phone:	Email:			
My gift is \square in honor of \square in memory of (Name)				
Please notify:				
☐ My check is enclosed	\Box Please charge my \Box Visa or \Box Mastercard			
☐ Please contact me regarding monthly donations.				
☐ Please contact me about becoming a Business Partner or Conservation Partner.				
Name on Card:				
Account Number:				
Expiration Date:	Signature:			

If you prefer to donate online, visit www.ELCR.org.