

THE RESOURCE

Horses Benefit Every Aspect of Our Communities

Horses, through industry, tourism, agriculture and commerce have a positive economic impact at the local, state and national level. But we know that horses add far more than just an economic benefit to our communities. For that reason, ELCR recently changed our “Equine Economic Impact and Benefits” core issue to “Benefits of Horses to Communities.”

In the updated section of the website, you will find information on economic and environmental benefits, as well as the positive effects equines have on humans, physically, mentally and emotionally.

Knowing about the benefits that horses have on communities as a whole is vital to ensuring that horses maintain their place in our local communities. Whether it be planning and zoning commissions, city councils, park commissions or community groups, non-horse people make decisions that impact us all. Educating them that horses are important, not to just a small group of recreationists, but to the economic, physical, emotional, and ecological well-being of the entire community, helps keep horse lands at the forefront of the planning process.

More information about the benefits of horses for our communities can be found on our website at <https://elcr.org/conservation-resources/equine-economic-impact/>. ■




Photo courtesy of Kentucky Horse Park

Therapeutic riding programs are only one of many ways that communities benefit from having horses.

Where will you
ride
drive
race
compete
raise foals
grow hay?



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: Skyland Stables, Virginia

These public stables, owned and operated by the National Park Service, offer horse and pony rides in the Shenandoah National Forrest. The Corps Network, along with the National Trust for Historic Preservation's HOPE Crew restored and refreshed the stables, ensuring their continued operation. The stable stands near a trail head, with access to 200 miles of equestrian trails.

To learn more, visit:
<http://bit.ly/1hNF63e>

IN DANGER: Beaver Valley, Pennsylvania

Development is threatening 325 acres of land, open to hikers, cyclists and equestrians. Individuals are organizing to prevent the development of this precious and beloved area and ensure the future of outdoor recreation in Beaver Valley.

To find out more, visit:
<http://www.savethevalley.org/>
<http://savebeavervalley.org/>



SAVE THE VALLEY
FIGHTING TO PRESERVE
OUR COMMUNITY ★ OUR HERITAGE ★ OUR ENVIRONMENT

LOST: Andrews Osborne Academy, Ohio

This historic school in Willoughby, OH, has decided to close its equestrian facility and construct an indoor athletic building. Since the announcement, there has been an outcry from alumni, many of whom have offered to make substantial donations to save the center. The center closed at the end of the school year.

To find out more, visit: <http://bit.ly/1ogS7Tp>

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. ■

ELCR Mourns Mike Strang

Longtime ELCR supporter, Mike Strang, died in January of this year at the age of 84.

Mike was a Princeton graduate, veteran, investment banker and served in the Colorado Legislature in the early 1970s.

Throughout his life, his passion for horses was a constant. He hosted several Horse Trials at Strang Ranch, served on the USEA Board of Governors, and offered his support in the founding of ELCR.

Mike is survived by his wife, Kit; daughters, Bridget and Laurie; and son, Scott. Mike will be greatly missed and our thoughts are with the Strang family in this difficult time. ■



Michael L. Strang

Partners Spotlight: Masterson Equine Services

Equine Land Conservation Resource would like to thank Jim Masterson and the staff at Masterson Equine Services for selecting ELCR as its 2014 first quarter beneficiary of the net sales of Jim's first DVD, *Equine Massage for Performance Horses: The Masterson Method*.

Previous beneficiaries have been Horses Helping Heroes Project, putting together combat veterans and horses; and the Equus Foundation. ELCR was selected as a beneficiary because Jim and his staff feel strongly that the amount of land being lost to development is a threat to the equine industry and wanted to help make a difference in the equine community by supporting ELCR's efforts.

In addition to their new DVD, Masterson Equestrian Services holds online courses, in-person courses and a certification program in its unique system of responsive equine massage. For more information about Masterson Equestrian Services, please visit www.mastersonmethod.com. ■



Thanks to our corporate friends:

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



www.KPPusa.com

USDA Agriculture Census Reveals Decreases in Horse Populations

In May, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released the findings of the 2012 Census of Agriculture. This census, performed every five years, provides agriculture-related information for every state. Farms and ranches producing more than \$1,000 in agricultural products or sales are surveyed. In 2012, approximately 3 million farms and ranches met these criteria.

Because the USDA census focuses on agriculture and agri-business, this cannot be considered a complete count of all horses in the United States. Horses that are owned solely for racing, showing or recreation are often not counted. However, the census can show trends in horse ownership. The 2012 trends were less than positive.

Since 2007, the number of these farms and ranches with horses decreased by 14% (71,146), and their horse population decreased by 11% (407,479). The most common size of farms and ranches with horses was 10-49 acres. That means that this decrease in farms could account for almost 3.5 million acres of lost horse land.

The decrease in farms could account for almost 3.5 million acres.

While these statistics are sobering, they shed light on the equine land loss problem. While larger properties have high visual impact on the equine community, small farms are vital to our nation's horse population. Protecting these properties, and the facilities used by their owners is essential to ensuring the future of horses in our country.

To see the American Horse Council's summary of the USDA Census, visit <http://bit.ly/1iC6coQ>. To read the census findings in their entirety, visit <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov>. ■

ELCR Congratulates Augusta Catherin-Sauer

The Anson W. H. Taylor Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by Pony Club and the Equine Land Conservation Resource in memory of former Pony Club President and ELCR founder Anson Taylor. The Scholarship is awarded to a current Pony Club member who has been active with and committed to efforts on behalf of land conservation. This year's recipient is Augusta Catherin-Sauer from Sawtooth Pony Club. She has been accepted to Hampshire College, where she plans to major in Pre-medicine. ■

New legislation calls for improved investments in National Forest Trail System

The National Forest Trail System Stewardship Act of 2014 was introduced in the House of Representatives this June. The act would keep more trails across the nation open and accessible by expanding the use of volunteer and partner organizations and providing increased focus on a handful of priority areas around the country.

More than fifty diverse recreation and conservation groups requested the legislation after a study last year reported that the maintenance backlog for forest trails exceeds \$314 million dollars and threatens to limit public access, harm natural resources, and increase future maintenance costs.

The United States National Forest System contains the largest network of trails in the world and receives roughly 165 million visitors a year. While more people than ever are heading into national forests in pursuit of exercise, relaxation, and adventure, only one quarter of all trails are maintained to standard.

For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1yK5Ert>. ■



Small horse farms are vital to our equine population.



4037 Iron Works Parkway
Suite 120
Lexington, KY 40511

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Lexington, KY
Permit No. 589

Support ELCR

I wish to support ELCR with my gift of:

- \$2,500 \$1,000 \$750
- \$500 \$250 \$100
- \$50 \$25 \$_____

I wish to join ELCR as an individual
Conservation Member (\$28)

I wish to join ELCR as a
Business Member (\$100)

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 in honor of in memory of (Name) _____

Please notify: _____

My check is enclosed Please charge my Visa or 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.