

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION
RANGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Phone: (480) 362-7609 Fax: (480) 362-7584

WILD HORSE ADOPTION REQUIREMENTS

I. Adopter

Adopter Must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have no prior violations of adoption regulations or convictions of inhumane treatment to animals
- Not have adopted more than three (3) animals in the past 12 months and keep no more than four (4) untitled animals at one facility at any time
- Have received title to all eligible animals previously adopted
- Be financially able to properly house, feed and provide veterinary and farrier care for the animal(s)

II. Facilities Necessary to Maintain Adopted Wild Horses

At the time the adoption is approved, the adopter must have adequate corrals and structures to maintain adopted wild horses humanely. **An inspection of the adopter's facility will be conducted prior to the approval of the application.**

The following criteria must be met in order to qualify for adopting a wild horse:

Facilities

Corral

- A minimum of 400 square feet (20' x 20') must be provided for each newly adopted wild horse maintained in a corral. Corral should not be too large (more than 40' x 40'), as animals gentle easier in smaller corrals.

Stall

- For a gentled animal that is exercised daily, a box stall with an area of at least 144 square feet per animal is acceptable as long as it is well drained, well ventilated, and cleaned regularly. For gentled animals that are not exercised daily, the box stall must also have an attached corral with a properly fenced area of at least 400 square feet to provide exercise.

Shelter

- Shelter must be provided for adopted animals. The minimum acceptable manmade shelter is a three-sided structure having a shed-type roof with the structure's open side facing away from the direction of the prevailing wind. The shelter must be a run-in shed attached to the corral, or box stall in barn

attached to corral, allowing animal to move freely between the corral and shelter. The shelter must be free from protrusions (e.g., projecting bolts, hinges, etc.) or objects that would pose a hazard to the animal.

- Shelter or stall space should be at least 12' x 12' per animal.

Fencing

Corral Fencing

- Fencing material must be constructed of at least 5 rounded pipes or poles, 5-2x6 inch wooden planks, masonry, or similar materials, and be free of protrusions that would pose a hazard to the animal. Small-mesh woven wire fencing with openings no larger than 2" by 4" is acceptable. Woven wire corrals shall, however, have a minimum of one sight board at eye level. Additional boards midway between the ground and the top are desirable. Under no circumstances are electric fences, large-mesh woven wire, T-posts, or barbed wire corral enclosures acceptable during the period before the animal has been gentled.
 - Minimum Height of Corral Fencing:
 - Ungentled wild horses 18 months and older must have fencing at least 6 feet high.
 - Ungentled wild horses younger than 18 months must have fencing at least 5 feet high.

Pasture Fencing

- Adopted horses should not be released into pastures until they are tamed sufficiently so they will not attempt to escape when approached by individuals or other animals and can be handled for necessary care.

III. Transportation

Adopters must provide their own means of transporting adopted animals from the point of adoption to their facilities. The Authorized Officer must inspect all hauling equipment to assure that it is in good working condition, clean, solidly constructed, and free from protrusions that could injure animals. All vehicles must be covered and have adequate ventilation, floor covered with non-skid material, and ample headroom to allow animals to assume normal standing posture. ***For safety reasons, drop-ramp tailgates are not permitted.***

Trailers satisfactory for transporting adopted wild horses are listed below in order of preference:

- Stock Trailers – These are the most desirable trailers to haul wild horses because they are the least confining type of transportation, minimizing the risk of injury to the animals.
- Two-Horse Trailer – For the animal’s safety, center partitions must be removed. A board should be tied above the tailgate to prevent the animal from jumping over the gate. Untrained horses will not be tied in the trailer.
- One-Horse Trailer – This type of trailer is only acceptable for one foal 6-8 months old, or one halter-trained horse.

IV. Handling Equipment

The following must be provided by the adopter at the time of adoption.

Halters and Lead Ropes

- Properly fitting halters and lead ropes must be provided by adopters for loading at the adoption site. They are also necessary for use during the gentling process. Halters of heavy nylon webbing, buckle on, without a panic snap on the cheek piece are required. For leading, cotton ropes at least 15 feet long and 1 inch in diameter are recommended; synthetic leads are also acceptable if they are of equivalent strength to 1-inch cotton rope. Halter snaps and buckles should be sufficiently strong to restrain a wild horse.

V. Nutritional Requirements and Horse Health

Nutritional requirements vary with an animal’s ages, physiological condition, and level of work. A ration of about 2.5 pounds of good quality grass hay with 12 percent protein content per 100 pounds of body weight is required daily by an idle adult horse. Supplemental nutrients must be provided for young, developing animals, pregnant or lactating animals and active animals. Moldy, dusty, or spoiled feed is not acceptable.

Nutrition – Adopters must provide the nutrients necessary to maintain adopted animals in moderate condition as defined in the Wild Horse Body Fat Worksheet (see separate sheet).

- Adopters must provide free access to between 12 and 16 gallons of fresh clean water daily for each wild horse, depending on weather conditions. The water must be available in a container that does not pose a hazard for the animals (e.g., no sharp corners). If an automatic watering system is not available, the water should be supplied in a container large enough to require filling only twice daily. During freezing weather, the adopter must make provisions to assure water is available at least twice a day.

- Required salt and minerals shall be available to all animals on a daily basis. This can be done by providing salt and mineral blocks for each animal.

Sanitation - Stalls shall be well drained, well ventilated, and cleaned weekly to prevent health or safety problems. Corrals must be well drained and cleaned regularly.

Health Care - All horses available for adoption will receive proper veterinary care and vaccinations. A health record will be provided to the adopter indicating which vaccinations the horse has received and the dates administered. Humane care of adopted wild horses and burros requires annual booster shots and regular worming (see guidance information provided on the last page). Adopters should also make arrangements for regular hoof care and, where necessary, consultation with individual's knowledgeable about horse care.

Gentling Adopted Animal - In addition to the requirements listed above, applicants must understand that they are expected to gentle the adopted animal or provide some other humane method for capturing and restraining the animal to ensure that necessary veterinary and hoof care can be provided.

VI. Inspections

Qualified staff personnel will visit the facility where the adopted horse is being kept at least three (3) times within the first year. Adopters will be notified by telephone and/or USPS Certified Mail of the visitation at least one (1) week prior to the scheduled date.

VII. Violations

Any violations of the adoption requirements that are observed by an authorized officer must be corrected within thirty (30) days. If the violations are not corrected or reoccur more than one time, the adopted horse(s) will be removed from the adopter's care and the agreement will be cancelled.

VIII. Removal of Adopted Horses

Failure to comply with these requirements or the terms of adoption may result in the cancellation of the agreement, repossession of the animals and/or the disapproval of requests for adoption of additional animals.

Repossession of adopted horses will be conducted by the Environmental Protection & Natural Resources (EPNR) staff and will be accompanied by an officer of the Salt River Police Department (SRPD).

Equine Vaccination, Deworming, and Dental Care

Gayle S. Leith, D.V.M., M.S.

A. Kent Allen, D.V.M.

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Arizona Equine Medical and Surgical Centre

Timely vaccination and deworming programs are critical for the performance of your horse. In Arizona, horses should be vaccinated for Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus, Influenza, Rhinopneumonitis, and Potomac Horse Fever.

Encephalomyelitis: Sleeping sickness, is a virus which is transmitted to the horse through mosquito bites. Therefore, immunization against encephalitis should occur in the spring when the mosquito population is at its peak.

Tetanus: is caused by bacteria. This bacterium is ubiquitous in the environment. Horses should be vaccinated once a year and boosted if they become wounded.

Influenza: (Flu) is a viral respiratory disease. Vaccination for influenza should be done biannually, however, show horses or horses in densely populated areas should be vaccinated every 3 months.

Rhinopneumonitis: (Rhino) is another viral respiratory disease. This virus also causes abortion late in pregnancy.

Strangles: (Strep Equi) Infectious disease which affects the respiratory tract and causes lymph node abscessation. Biannual vaccination will reduce the incidence of strangles.

Potomac Horse Fever: (PHF) causes colic, fever, diarrhea and other non specific signs of illness. Horses in Arizona should be immunized against PHF biannually.

Deworming: Should be done every two months. Tube deworming is recommended every six months with paste deworming in between.

Dental Care: Dentistry is a frequently overlooked area. Sharp points on the teeth can cause discomfort for all ages from yearlings through aged horses. Horses should have their teeth monitored for points at least once a year.

Vaccination and Deworming Schedule

Spring

Eastern, Western Encephalomyelitis
Tetanus
Influenza
Rhinopneumonitis
Potomac Horse Fever
Strangles

Fall

Influenza
Rhinopneumonitis
Potomac Horse Fever
Tube Deworm
Strangles

Foals: *Initial spring vaccinations at three (3) months, booster at four (4) months.

*Deworm at one (1) month of age and every month during the 1st year.

Pregnant Mares: In addition to the spring and fall program, mares should be boosted with Rhinopneumonitis at 5, 7 and 9 months of pregnancy.

Horses in stables or competition: In addition to the spring and fall program, these horses should receive influenza and rhinopneumonitis every three (3) months.

**Repeat spring vaccinations 30-45 days prior to the foaling. This produces antibodies in the mare's colostrum to protect the foal.*

**Deworm every two months.*