CONTACT DETAILS

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL:

Lead:	**Primary Contact:**
Participants:	

SERVICE/ACTIVITY DETAILS

Purpose:	**Date:**

Benefit: Encourages responsible horse ownership through training and management practices. | Enhances the human-horse bond through care, handling, and training activities. | Promotes equine health through proper nutrition, medical care, and exercise. | Provides opportunities for therapy programs benefiting individuals with disabilities. | Reduces the risk of disease and injury through preventive care and monitoring. | Supports working and performance horses by ensuring their physical and mental well-being.

HAZARDS

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Aggressive horse behavior	Bites, kicks, injuries	Allows natural social behaviors while minimizing injury risk, promoting well-adjusted and stress-free horses.	Identify and separate aggressive horses when necessary, provide structured training, and ensure appropriate socialization. Train staff to recognize and manage equine body language effectively. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Exposure to extreme weather	Hypothermia, heat stress, injury	Protects horses from weather-related health issues, ensuring their comfort and safety year-round.	Provide appropriate shelter to protect horses from extreme heat, cold, wind, and precipitation. Monitor weather forecasts and adjust horse care routines accordingly, such as altering turnout times. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Exposure to toxic plants	Poisoning, illness, death	Prevents potential poisoning incidents, ensuring the safety and health of grazing horses.	Regularly inspect pastures and remove any toxic plants. Educate staff on identifying harmful flora and monitor horses for signs of poisoning, especially during high-risk seasons. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Fire hazards in stables	Burns, smoke inhalation, property damage, loss of life	Protects horses, staff, and property from the devastating effects of fires, ensuring a safe environment.	Install fire detection and suppression systems in all stable areas. Store flammable materials properly, enforce no-smoking policies, and conduct regular fire drills with staff. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Handling untrained horses	Injury, bites, kicks, trampling	Allows for the development of a trusting relationship between horse and handler, enhancing training effectiveness and overall horse management.	Implement a structured training program for horses, including desensitization exercises and positive reinforcement techniques. Ensure handlers are trained in proper handling methods and understand equine behavior to prevent accidents. **(ALL)**	Handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Heat exhaustion in horses	Dehydration, fatigue, collapse	Ensures horses remain healthy and comfortable, maintaining peak performance and preventing heat-related illnesses.	Provide ample shade, adjust workload based on temperature, offer frequent water breaks, and monitor for signs of overheating. Implement cooling techniques when necessary. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Horse becoming cast in stable	Entrapment, injury, distress	Reduces injury risks and ensures horses can move freely within their stable environment.	Use anti-cast strips or banks of bedding along stable walls to help prevent horses from getting stuck. Train handlers on safe repositioning techniques if necessary. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Improper feed storage	Spoiled feed, contamination, illness	Ensures horses receive uncontaminated and fresh feed, promoting their health and preventing feed-related illnesses.	Store feed in clean, dry, and vermin-proof containers. Label all feeds clearly and implement a first-in, first-out system to ensure freshness. Regularly inspect feed for mold or contamination. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Improper parasite control	Weight loss, colic, poor condition	Supports overall health, reducing weight loss, colic risk, and performance issues in horses.	Implement a strategic deworming program based on fecal egg counts, rotate pastures, and maintain clean living conditions to reduce parasite load. Educate staff on recognizing signs of parasitic infections. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Improper tack fit	Discomfort, pain, performance issues	Enhances horse performance and comfort while reducing behavioral issues related to pain.	Regularly check and adjust tack fit to ensure it does not cause discomfort or pressure points. Train handlers to assess proper fit and identify signs of pain or soreness. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Improper use of equipment	Injury, discomfort, equipment failure	Ensures the safety and comfort of horses during handling and riding, preventing injuries and discomfort.	Provide training for all staff on the correct use of equipment such as saddles, bridles, and grooming tools. Regularly inspect and maintain equipment to ensure it is in good working condition. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Improper waste management	Contamination, disease, pest infestation	Maintains a clean and hygienic environment, reducing the risk of disease and promoting horse health.	Establish a routine for the regular removal and proper disposal of manure and soiled bedding. Maintain designated waste storage areas away from horse living spaces to prevent contamination and pests. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Inadequate biosecurity measures	Disease spread, infection, quarantine failure	Reduces the risk of disease transmission, protecting the health of the entire equine population.	Implement strict biosecurity protocols, including quarantine procedures for new or returning horses, disinfection of equipment, and limiting access to essential personnel during outbreaks. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Inadequate emergency preparedness	Delayed response, increased injuries, confusion	Ensures a swift and effective response during emergencies, minimizing harm to horses and personnel.	Develop and regularly update an emergency action plan covering scenarios such as natural disasters, fires, and medical emergencies. Train staff in emergency procedures and conduct regular drills. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Inadequate fencing	Injury, escape, entanglement	Provides horses with a safe and secure environment, reducing the risk of injury and escape, and ensuring their well-being.	Regularly inspect and maintain all fencing to ensure it is secure, free from sharp edges, and of appropriate height and strength to contain horses safely. Use materials suitable for equine enclosures to prevent injuries and escapes. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Inadequate hoof care	Lameness, infection, discomfort	Prevents lameness and other hoof-related problems, ensuring horses remain sound and comfortable.	Schedule regular visits with a qualified farrier to maintain hoof health. Train staff to recognize signs of hoof problems and implement daily hoof cleaning routines to prevent issues. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Inadequate socialization opportunities	Stress, behavioral issues, anxiety	Supports mental well-being, reducing stress-related behaviors and fostering natural equine instincts.	Provide controlled turnout with compatible horses, allowing social interaction while monitoring for aggression. Rotate groups as needed to maintain harmony. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Inadequate water supply	Dehydration, illness, reduced performance	Prevents dehydration and associated health issues, supporting overall equine well-being.	Ensure all horses have constant access to clean, fresh water. Regularly inspect water sources for cleanliness, functionality, and temperature, especially during extreme weather conditions. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Incorrect medication administration	Overdose, adverse reactions, ineffective treatment	Ensures effective treatment while preventing accidental overdoses or adverse drug reactions.	Only allow trained personnel to administer medications, keep detailed records, and follow veterinary guidance. Clearly label medications and store them securely. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Lack of exercise	Obesity, behavioral issues, poor fitness	Promotes physical and mental well-being, reducing stress-related behaviors and maintaining soundness.	Establish a consistent exercise routine suited to each horse's needs, including turnout, groundwork, and ridden work. Monitor fitness levels and adjust accordingly. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Overcrowded pastures	Stress, aggression, injury, inadequate grazing	Promotes a harmonious social environment and ensures adequate nutrition from pasture grazing, supporting horse health.	Manage pasture stocking rates to prevent overgrazing and reduce competition among horses. Rotate pastures and provide adequate space per horse to maintain grass health and minimize stress. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Poor pasture maintenance	Injury, malnutrition, overgrazing	Provides horses with a safe, nutritious grazing environment that supports long-term health.	Conduct regular pasture checks for hazards such as holes, debris, and overgrazed areas. Implement rotational grazing and reseed pastures as needed. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Poor saddle storage and maintenance	Tack failure, discomfort, injury	Extends the lifespan of equipment, ensuring consistent comfort and safety for both horse and rider.	Store tack in a clean, dry area, regularly clean and inspect for damage, and ensure proper saddle racks are used to maintain shape. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Slippery surfaces	Slips, falls, injuries	Prevents injuries to horses and handlers caused by slips and falls, ensuring a safer working environment.	Use non-slip materials in high-traffic areas such as aisles, wash bays, and entryways. Regularly clean and maintain these surfaces to prevent the buildup of water, mud, or manure that could cause slipping. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Sudden loud noises	Startle response, flight risk, injury	Encourages calm responses to noise, reducing flight risks and improving overall temperament.	Desensitize horses to common loud noises gradually through controlled exposure. Position stables away from high-noise areas and use calming techniques when unexpected sounds occur. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Transport-related stress	Anxiety, injury, dehydration	Allows safe relocation for competitions, veterinary visits, or rehoming while minimizing stress and injury risk.	Train horses to load calmly, use well-ventilated trailers, provide non-slip flooring, and plan frequent rest stops for long journeys. Ensure transport complies with welfare guidelines. **(ALL)**	Horses	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Unsafe tying practices	Strangulation, injury, panic response	Allows secure handling and management while reducing injury risks if a horse panics.	Use quick-release knots and breakaway halters when tying horses. Train staff to tie horses safely and supervise when necessary. Avoid tying to unstable objects. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Untrained or inexperienced handlers	Injury, accidents, miscommunication	Improves safety and efficiency while fostering confidence in equine care teams.	Provide structured training programs for all staff, covering horse behavior, handling, and emergency response. Supervise inexperienced handlers until competent. **(ALL)**	Handlers, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
Inadequate lighting	Trips, falls, accidents	Enhances safety by allowing clear visibility, reducing the risk of accidents during horse handling and care activities.	Install sufficient lighting in stables, arenas, and walkways to ensure visibility during all hours of operation. Use shatterproof fixtures and regularly check for and replace burnt-out bulbs. **(ALL)**	Horses, handlers, staff	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**
Poor stable ventilation	Respiratory issues, discomfort, increased illness	Maintains a healthy respiratory environment for horses, reducing the incidence of respiratory diseases and promoting overall health.	Design stables with adequate ventilation systems to ensure a constant flow of fresh air, reducing the accumulation of dust and ammonia. Regularly clean bedding and monitor air quality to prevent respiratory issues. **(ALL)**	Horses, staff	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Unpredicted risks	Illness, injury, death		Continuous risk monitoring conducted by all staff. Any unforeseen hazards must be reported promptly to supervisors or management, with immediate corrective action taken as necessary. **(ALL)**	All	**N/A**

NOTES

Extra notes & activity evaluation:

Completed by	Reviewed/Approved by	Risk Assessment Date	Review Required Date