

Possible Topics -----**Safety is always priority**

- General safety: helmet, appropriate footwear, emergency procedures, appropriate behavior around horses, barn safety (emergency exits, fire extinguishers, etc.), how to safely approach a horse
- Herd Observation/Horse Behavior
- Breeds, Colors, Markings
- Effective paddock and stall retrieval

Paddock Management & Safety

- Poisonous plants
- Safe and appropriate fencing
- Sheltering/water needs
- Manure management & parasites
- Fly & pest control/management
- Stable Management
- What is a safe stall?
- Cleaning stalls
- Shelter/water needs
- Types of bedding
- Keeping a safe aisle
- Hay and grain storage
- Dust/cobweb / ventilation control

Horse Health

- Routine horse health: Annual Vaccinations and deworming for parasites
 - TPR
 - Horse behavior (what is your horses normal behavior?)
 - Common diseases, illnesses and ailments
 - Cleaning a cut
 - Alternative therapies: chiropractic, massage, acupuncture, reiki, etc.
- *All of the topics under Horse Health can be broken into multiple weeks to cover topics fully through discussion, research, and practice

Horsemanship Skills

- Safe haltering techniques
- Safe leading techniques (introductory level around the arena to advanced leading out on the trail)
- Showmanship at halter
- Round penning
- Lungeing
- Parts of the horse and function
- Tack and Equipment
- Safe Tacking Procedures
- Parts of the saddle, bridle, driving harness, etc.
- Safety stirrups: identification of types and purpose
- Cleaning tack
- Learning where everything goes in the tack room
- Advanced Equipment: side reins, lunge line, lunge whip, lungeing cavesson, crupper, breast plate, adaptive equipment, surcingle, anti-cast, different types of girths (string, dressage, elastic), protective boots and wraps, etc.
- Learn different types of saddles and how they relate to different riding styles
- Learn about different bits and their functions (bit-less bridles, hackamore, etc)
- Learn about all of the different safety features on your tack (third billet, safety bar, etc.)
- Additional Types of Grooming tools: shedding blade, different types of curry combs,

washing mitts, face brush, size and shape of tools as they relate to purpose, discussion of why some horses' hard brushes are softer than others

- Saddle pads
- Gel pad, gel lift, bumps, Bareback pads, NB Pads and form to function

Going to a Show

- Advanced Grooming
- Braiding techniques
- Bathing
- Wrapping for trailering
- What do you need to bring for your horse (water, feed, supplements, equipment, etc.)
- Create a stall card
- Saddle fit

Conformation

- Form to function!
- Narrow versus wide build
- Tracking up
- Soundness

Equine Nutrition

- Hay, water, grain (different types)
- Hay test
- Grass
- How much is too much?
- What about grass clippings?
- Poisonous plants discussion returns!
- Advanced: supplements, electrolytes, body condition scoring
- Make a feed chart for your horse
- Make treats for your horse
- Learn about why some horses should not get treats

Equine Dentistry

- Age and our horses' teeth
- Dentistry tools
- Differences between geldings and mares
- Number of teeth and function
- Hooks and Quid

Veterinary care

- Daily care/grooming and observation
- General First Aid
- Cleaning a cut
- TPR returns = know your horses' norm!
- Capillary refill
- Annual Immunizations
- When should you call the vet? Recognizing the signs of a sick horse
- Advanced illness

Farrier/Blacksmith & Barefoot trimmer

- Parts of the hoof
- Barefoot versus shoes – why?
- Types of shoes
- Winter versus summer
- Specialized shoeing techniques (pads, clips, bar shoes, trailers, borium, studs, glue-on etc.)
- Tools and Techniques
- Hot versus cold shoeing