

NOVEMBER 20th MEADOWLARK COVID-19 PROTOCOL
PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY

Dear Boarders, Students, and Friends!

Numbers of COVID-19 patients in our area continue to climb, and so we have updated and adapted our current protocols to take this into account. Please bear with us, and understand that none of this is permanent. Things will be in flux for some time to come, yet, and protocols may continue to relax or tighten, depending on the Governor's future executive orders as well as the local COVID numbers. Changes or new rules since our last update have been marked in bold.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE HOLIDAYS:

- **For the safety of others at MeadowLark and in your lesson, all visitors (students, parents, family, boarders, leasers, staff, etc.) must be sure to follow MDHHS guidelines for safe gatherings over the holidays.**
- **If you plan to gather with more than 2 households for the holidays, it will be necessary to quarantine following your gathering. (per MDHHS guidelines)**
- **If you plan to gather with more than 10 individuals for the holidays, it will be necessary to quarantine following your gathering. (per MDHHS guidelines)**
- **Regular in-person lessons will be suspended from November 26 to December 3, in an effort to reduce chances of exposure.**

GENERAL COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

- All visitors must fill out a Meadowlark Covid Questionnaire prior to arriving at the farm, if they intend to leave their vehicles. (Link on page 3)
- **Observation of lessons is no longer permitted. We must ask that all parents, etc please refrain from sitting in the observation areas of the arena during lessons (and either drop your riders, if you are comfortable, or remain in your vehicles) for the safety of our instructors and students.**
- **All gates must be sanitized after every use. Bleach bottles are placed outside each gate (out of reach of horses!) Please notify Emily, Kay, or one of the feeding staff if the bottles are running low.**
- **Masks (or comparable face-wear) must be worn at all times. The only exception to this is for equine professionals such as vets, dentists and farriers. We can no longer afford to make exceptions for outdoor mask use while riding.**

- Social distances of a minimum of SIX feet must be maintained **at all times**.
- Boarders may continue to visit whenever they like, but **must continue to sign up** on the sign-up sheet to help others see the number of other boarders likely to be at the farm.
- After mucking stalls, you must be sure to sanitize all wheelbarrows, latches, and pitchforks.
- **If you are a high-risk boarder or visitor, please feel free to contact us about visiting during feeding shifts as the number of people on the property during those shifts will be limited to essential staff and scheduled students.**
- **A maximum of 2 (TWO) individuals may in any barn tacking/grooming at a time, unless weather is inclement or a horse is being difficult. Each individual must sanitize all cross ties, hoses, hydrants, etc. prior to exiting the barn (this means before and after your ride), and ONE person may be mucking stalls.**
- ALL riders are encouraged to use outdoor grooming stations whenever possible.
- ALL riders are encouraged to ride outdoors whenever possible. Large sliding doors in the indoor will be left open later into the season to maintain improved ventilation.
- Please limit your time in the barns to 20 minutes, and consider tacking outside if you are able. **In the event of rain**, more than 2 individuals may tack in the barns, but must tack in stalls, sanitize stall latches, practice social distancing, and continue to wear masks at all times.
- **Indoor riding arena may be unavailable in the event of a clinic, depending on the circumstances. Please watch the calendar or Facebook for updates!**
- Trails do not have a maximum capacity for riders, but if you are riding in a group, all riders must wear masks as riding in a single-file line can increase the possibility of airborne transmission.
- **If you are able to supply your own sanitation supplies, we ask (or maybe we should beg?) that you do!** Keeping sanitation supplies stocked at the farm is proving to be a challenge, as it is difficult and costly to procure these supplies. We recommend that each student or boarder bring their own spray of disinfectant - either a sanitizing bleach mixture, or a mix with 70%+ alcohol content. Do NOT use these sprays on tack. Spray saddle-soap will be available for student use.
- PLEASE respect the safety of our staff! Many of these limitations are in place to protect them, as well as yourselves.

We cannot thank you all enough for your patience, understanding and support during this challenging time. Winter is the most difficult season for horse farms, financially as well as

weather-wise, and heading into the winter with a pandemic looming and potential shut-down in our programs' futures is intimidating to say the least.

If you are not comfortable coming to the farm for any reason, or if you have any concerns or questions about the new protocols, we urge you to reach out to us. Communication is the key to any healthy community - and we love and cherish our community members and want to maintain an open channel!

**With love and hope,
Kay and Emily**

IMPORTANT LINKS:

Current Meadowlark COVID-19 Protocols

<http://www.meadowlarkequestriancenter.com/CurrentCovidProtocol.pdf>

Current Meadowlark Boarder/Leaser Sign-up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4BA4AB2CA7FE3-meadowlark2>

Meadowlark Digital COVID questionnaire

<https://forms.gle/9m9LufkLyLc9RN386>

USEF COVID-19 Protocols

<https://www.usef.org/media/coronavirus-resources>

CDC COVID-19 Recommendations

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

WHO COVID-19 Recommendations

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

Michigan Executive Orders

https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705---,00.html

MDHHS Epidemic Orders

https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_98455-533660--,00.html