

## NEWSLETTER 2025 Second QUARTER



### DOUGLAS-ELBERT COUNTY HORSE COUNCIL

P.O. BOX 2572 PARKER, COLORADO 80134

[www.dechc.org](http://www.dechc.org)

**April 1, 2025**

Purpose: to promote and improve the horse industry; to provide emergency related rescue; to educate and report horse related issues; to support trail development, safety and open space

### **Douglas-Elbert County Horse Council (DECHC)**

#### **Board of Directors**

Sharon Jayne, President; Sue Kalamen, Vice President; Sherry Helmeke, Secretary; Monica Wheeler, Treasurer; Cindy Adams, Christine Exley, Kris Garrett, Laura Karlis, Jennifer Little, Diane Sanders and Carin Shuler

*P.O. Box 2572*  
**Parker, Colorado 80134**  
*Www.dechc.org*

### **Join Our Facebook Page**

Douglas-Elbert County Horse Council-DECHC-besides yourselves, ask your equestrian friends and acquaintances to become a member today.

For all upcoming meetings and events see our Calendar page at [www.DECHC.org](http://www.DECHC.org). You can even sign up for calendar updates.





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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**By  
Sharon Jayne**

Spring is right around the corner and the trails are drying out. Please remember let's all be good stewards of our trails and not ride if they are muddy. We want to leave our beautiful trails undamaged.

It is perfect timing for our Annual Emergency Preparedness Clinic and we are hoping for good weather. Please join us on April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. We have some great guest speakers lined up! There is always updated information given especially with El Paso County already having a couple fires due to the high winds we have had.

Greenland Trail Course maintenance and clean up is scheduled for May 21. Please join us. The more people we have the quicker we will get it done. Also mark your calendar for June 22. Tia Jones will be doing a Trailer Loading Clinic at the Greenland Open Space Arena. Stay tuned for more information.

Did you forget to renew? No problem go to the website and download the membership application and mail it in.

If anyone has any suggestions, complaints, or ideas please feel free to give me a call or email me. My number is 303-570-4559 and email is [majestictrail@aol.com](mailto:majestictrail@aol.com).

Ride on!!



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CLINIC

Brought to you by the Douglas-Elbert County Horse Council.

**Saturday, April 26, 2025**

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Douglas County Fairgrounds, Multi-Purpose Barn  
500 Fairgrounds Road, Castle Rock, CO 80104

Email [nccadams3@gmail.com](mailto:nccadams3@gmail.com) or [majestictrail@aol.com](mailto:majestictrail@aol.com) with any questions.



**FREE !**



## Topics include:

- Prioritizing
- Making prior arrangements
- Identifying your horse
- Preparing your facilities
- Preparing an Emergency Information Packet
- Preparing a Disaster Kit
- Time is of the essence
- What are my responsibilities for my horse while at the evacuation site?
- What do I need to reclaim my horse?
- What do I do with my other pets?

## **Let's not be someone's nightmare !!!!!**

Written by D. Sanders



Trail etiquette – this can be a touchy topic. We all have horror stories concerning reckless bicycle riders, arrogant hikers, kids running amok and unleashed dogs. We all can go on for hours about how this affects our horses and our enjoyment of the trails.

But, seeing as how this newsletter does not reach that audience, I am going to address some simple rules of etiquette that we as horseback riders can practice.

It starts at the trail head. Be courteous when parking. Stay in designated trailer parking areas. Try not to take up more space than you really need. If your horse leaves a pile of manure – pick it up. If there is nowhere to dispose of it, simply put it back into your trailer and haul it away for later disposal.

Be careful riding around parked cars. Sure, you may be confident that your horse won't kick out at the super expensive SUV, but the owner won't know that. A bit of space is a good thing.

Once out on the trail, it's time to enjoy our equine partners. Following a few basic rules will make your ride an enjoyable experience.

Respect the rights of others.

Be prepared to politely let other trail users know what needs to be done to keep you, your horse and them safe when you meet.

If riding in a group, ride at the level/speed for the least experienced rider.

Communicate concerns or point out obstacles to the other members of your group.

Obey signage – do not ride on non-horse or closed areas.

Do not go too fast for existing conditions, be it mud, tricky terrain or crowded trails.

Leave gates as you find them.

In theory – downhill riders yield to uphill riders/bikers/hikers. But use common sense as this may not always be the safest way to handle any given situation.

Pack out what you pack in.

These are only a few of the basic etiquette guidelines. I am sure that anyone of you can easily come up with a dozen more additions to this list. Maybe it will take some time to think about more ways to be better prepared to safely share the trail with others.

So, let's not be the equestrian horror story that some hiker or bike rider tells his friends. Our trails are generally multi-use, so when out there, be safe and be courteous. Most of all, ride and enjoy!!!

## **DECHC SPRING WORKDAY AT GREENLAND HORSE COURSE**

By: Sue Kalamen

Wednesday May 21, 2025, at 10:00am will be the time to spruce up the horse course at Greenland open space. DECHC has adopted the horse course, so we cheerfully do minor repairs and general cleanup there twice a year.

We ask for members to volunteer to help with the cleanup. Please bring gloves and general yard tools. (Grass trimmers, hedge trimmers, shovels, rakes, or any other tools you may think we can use.)

Snacks and water will be provided. We will be done by noon. You are welcome to bring your horse and go for a ride after the cleanup.

Hope to see you there. Many hands make lite work!

For questions, please contact:

Sue Kalamen 303 -841 -2011 or Cindy Adams 303- 646- 2302





## 2025 annual DECHC trail ride

By: Sue Kalamen

**SAVE THE DATE** of Saturday Sept. 27th for the annual member appreciation trail ride.

We'd love to see you there! Rain date will be Sunday sept 28<sup>th</sup>.

The ride committee is working on securing a great place in either Douglas or Elbert county, so stay tuned for updates.

All riders must be current members of DECHC at the time of the ride. If you have friends that want to ride, they must join DECHC and pay their dues no later than 3 weeks before the ride.

Dues are only \$15 a year for family membership.

Further updates will be forthcoming. We hope to see you in September.

If you have any questions you can contact:

Sue Kalamen 303 841 2011 or

Cindy Adams 303 646 2302

[Dechc2025@gmail.com](mailto:Dechc2025@gmail.com)



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### ADVERTIZING CHARGES

#### Charges for one year (4 issues) for Commercial/Corporate Memberships

	Members	Non-Members
Business Card Size - 1 Side	\$ 0	\$ 60
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## DOUGLAS-ELBERT COUNTY HORSE COUNCIL

Membership Application (please print clearly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Type of Membership:

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual/Family \$15/annually

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual/Family \$200/Lifetime

\_\_\_\_\_ Organization \$50/annually

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Commercial/Corporation \$75/annually

Name of Corporation \_\_\_\_\_

### I would like to Volunteer for:

Evacuation sites \_\_\_\_\_

Be a Board member \_\_\_\_\_

Clinics \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Workdays \_\_\_\_\_

We host clinics about 4 times/year. Please let us know if there is a topic you would like to suggest:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail application and check to:

Douglas-Elbert County Horse Council

PO Box 2572

Parker CO 80134