

Mt. St. Helens BCH

BCHW

November 2023



"I know I'm just a horse but... if you feel sad, I'll be your smile... if you cry, I'll be your comfort and if someone breaks your heart, we can use mine to live. I'll always be by your side".

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The mission of this organization shall be:

- I. To perpetuate the common-sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- II. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- III. To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- IV. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resources by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- V. To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.
- VI. To Foster and Encourage new Chapters in the State Organization.

NEXT MEETING:

**January 8th 6PM—9PM
ROUND TABLE PIZZA—
SALMON CREEK**

Volunteer hours:

Don't forget to email Judy Smith with your volunteer hours.

Trailridenbuddy@yahoo.com

***Note ***

The new dates due will allow Judy the time she has to get them in by the 1st of the month

VOLUNTEER HOURS

REPORTING PERIOD DUE TO JUDY NO LATER THAN...

1st Quarter (Oct 1—Feb 29) Feb 25th

2nd Quarter (Mar 1-May 31) May 25

3rd Quarter (Apr 1-Aug 31) Aug 25

4th Quarter (Sep 1-30) Setp 25

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From our Director

Hello all

Just so, you all know that BCHW is not my whole life. I am including a picture here that shows my other favorite activity. I recently made a trip to South Dakota to visit cousins there and to hunt pheasants with them on their farm. My 1 ½ year old lab Jasper did great for a young dog. Maybe some of you remember but I met a lady at Rendezvous 2022 and she is a breeder of labs and that is how I came to get Jasper. It has been a good match. Yes Glenn Hallberg we had lutefisk and lefsa.

Enough of that. The Gifford Pinchot Sustainable Trails Steering Committee is starting to pull together all of the information and public comments they have so far to date. This will be the start of the formal plan. Two good take a ways from this is the F.S. wants to start an annual meeting addressing trails and a bi-annual Trail User Group meeting to work on organizing projects amongst users groups. Some type of form that lists the maintenance work done on trails will be developed so everyone can plan accordingly.



Judy Smith and I met with DNR at Hidden Falls on the eighth to discuss and plan for a new tie up area for horses so riders can spend more time enjoying the falls. We came up with a new spot about 100 yards from the falls and a plan to fix up the old

spot. The high line was taken down because one of the trees that the cable was attached to had died and the other is severely stressed. The dead tree will be taken down and the high line will be put back up temporarily until a permanent fix can be agreed on. Next spring is when the highline will be put back up. I suggested that we could help with that project. It will take a year or more to make the new site, as they will have to include it with some other projects in the area. DNR is replacing two old wood bridges in the area with fiberglass bridges.

Brian Jansen, Gary Collins and myself met with the new Mount St. Helens Monument manager on the ninth. Jon Gellings is his name. He is a younger man with a family and plans on staying for a while. He is from Wisconsin, but has spent time in Alaska working for the Forest Service also. We talked about issues that we know about in the monument, roads, trails, illegal usage. We came away feeling like he is someone we can work with. An interesting bit of information he shared with us is that the work force of forest service on the monument is 65% down from a full work force. They have the money to hire new personnel but they are not getting any interest from those possibly looking for work. If you know someone who is looking for work, they are interested in talking to them.

I still have plenty of calendars and will bring them to the Christmas Party. They are \$12.

Thanks to all for all you do, Jim

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From our President

and it's time for you to renew yours and encourage others to join our team. If you need help, you can contact me or other officers and Sally Kiger, our membership chair. We can help you if needed, otherwise just click this link <https://form.jotform.com/231627363308152>, or fill out the form and send it in.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Time to relax and reflect a little as the year comes to a close. It seems like time has flown by with never a dull moment. Our chapter has had a good year, maintaining and improving our trails and camps, a successful Fun Ride fundraiser, and volunteering and participating in several BCH events. We can always do better, and that's what we will try to do as we go into 2024.

A first step is membership,

Don't forget about the Christmas party on Dec 9, details in this newsletter.

I hope you and your family have a great Thanksgiving and a joyful holiday season.

'Describe your sport in a photo'

Equestrians:



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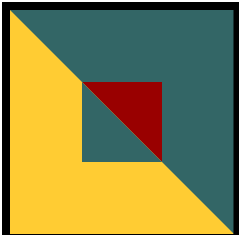
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To Blanket or Not to Blanket

Author: Sallie S. Hyman, VMD, DACVIM,
CVA

Information in this article is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for evaluation by an equine professional. In particular, all horse owners should seek advice and treatment from a licensed veterinarian, such as TEVA, for their horses' medical care.

Winter is here! The days are short, and the nights are long and cold in much of the country. As we manage our horses in the colder weather, the question arises of whether or not to blanket your horse. The short answer is “no,” but let’s look at why that is, and under what circumstances blanketing may be preferred or necessary.

How a horse stays warm:

Horses have developed very efficient means of staying warm, even in very cold temperatures. Your horse’s coat is comprised of two types of hair:

longer stiffer guard hairs; and a soft, fluffy undercoat. The guard hairs “guard” or protect the soft hairs from dirt and water, shed off rain, and collect moisture from sweat that might damage the undercoat. The softer, fluffier hairs of the undercoat trap warm air between and act like insulation around your horse. Natural oils are produced that coat the hair to make them water resistant. Each hair is connected to the piloerector muscle. This muscle allows the hairs to be stood up or laid flat. When they stand up, warm air trapped between them, just above the surface of the skin. When they lie down, warm air is released from between them, cooling the area above the surface of the skin.


How much winter hair will my horse get?

Horses will start to grow their heavy winter coats sometime in late August in most parts of the United States. The hair

growth is actually linked to the length of daylight, not the temperature. How thick their coat will grow does depend some on where you live. A horse in Florida will not grow nearly as heavy a coat as a horse in Minnesota does, but they all grow a thicker coat for winter.

What role does nutrition play?

Besides the hair coat, given the right nutrition, horses will start to put on a layer of fat in late summer and early fall in preparation for colder weather to come. Nutrition also plays a role during the cold weather. It is important that your horse gets enough hay to eat. The fermentation of hay in the horse’s hindgut produces an incredible amount of heat. Basically, your horse has a built in furnace that is fueled by hay.



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CEO


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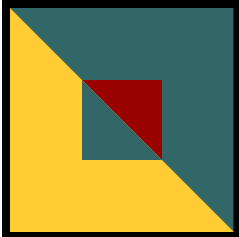
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Manager

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matt.j.clift@lesschwab.com

PRIDE IN PERFORMANCE SINCE 1952



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And that sudden burst of crazy running around the pasture? While it may seem that your horse or horses have just been spooked, or have gone nuts, this moving around is another way to generate heat.

How much cold can a horse tolerate?

A Canadian study found that horses can tolerate temperatures down to 5° F before they show any drop in body temperature. *However*, certain conditions do change your horse's ability to keep warm. Rain and wind are the two most important. Rain will flatten the hair coat and prevent the undercoat from providing that layer of warm air. Wind will blow the warm air from the surface of the skin. Snow is less of a problem. In fact, snow will collect on your horse's coat and act as a layer of insulation.

When don't I need to blanket my horse?

- ◆ When he has a natural winter coat
- ◆ When he is healthy and in good body weight
- ◆ When it is not too windy or raining
- ◆ If the temperature says above 5° F

When do I need to blanket my horse?

- ◆ When he has been clipped for winter
- ◆ When he is sick or injured
- ◆ When he is underweight (or any "hard keeper")
- ◆ When he is older, with weight issues, or difficulty moving around
- ◆ When he has been recently moved to a colder climate (Expect it to take 10-21 days for a horse to acclimate to a new climate)
- ◆ When it is Windy or Rainy or both
- ◆ When there is no available shelter

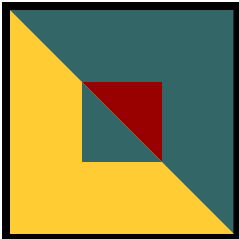
Here are some general guidelines:

1. **Body Clipped Horses:** Start blanketing when the temperature gets below 60° F, or anytime it is rainy or windy
2. **Moderate Hair Coat Horses:** Start blanketing when the temperature goes below 40° F
3. **Heavy Hair Coat Horses:** Start blanketing when the temperatures go below 30° F

Do keep in mind, however, that most horses with a natural hair coat will do fine without blankets as long as there is no wind or rain.

Important!

It is very important to keep in mind that there are times when blanketing is worse than not blanketing. A blanket will make your horse's hair coat lie flat, thus removing that insulating layer of warm air. If the amount of insulation in the blanket is less than what your horse's natural coat would provide, then he will be cold. Make sure that any blankets used for turnout are waterproof! A wet blanket will make your horse cold. Too many blankets, or too heavy a blanket will make your horse sweat, make the hairs lie down, and make your horse cold. Stick your hand under your horse's blankets to make sure he is not too hot. Additionally, you should not see sweat marks on your horse when you take the blanket off.



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How to blanket properly:

Proper fit is essential to keep your horse warm and safe. Make sure that the blanket is not putting pressure on your horse's withers, chest, or shoulders. You may have to try several styles of blanket to find the one that fits your horse correctly. Many horses, especially those that are clipped, will develop rub marks on the shoulders. Slick undergarments are available to help with this. Spraying the inside of the blanket with a silicone grooming spray can also help.

Remove your horse's blanket often to make sure that any rubs have not turned into sores or that he hasn't developed rain rot under his blanket.

Make sure to use turnout blankets when horses are turned out! These blankets are designed to stay in place when your horse runs and rolls; they are waterproof; and they are generally of sturdier materials to withstand herd turnout. Stable blankets are not waterproof, plus your horse can get tangled up in a blanket that is not intended for turnout.

A blanket that is too small can cause pressure sores and not provide enough warmth. Likewise, a blanket is too large can be dangerous from being too loose, as well as allow too much cold air to flow underneath it.



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Leave No Trace Training and Stock Use Techniques

(LNT.org): A Guide to Minimum Impact Camping by Noelle Rodolari November, 2023



Leave No Trace Basics: How to Enjoy the Outdoors Responsibly

People are using the outdoors in growing numbers! So, there is no better time than now to spread these skills and ethics. The LNT.org website is beefing up education with short videos and quizzes to help spread the word. Check it out and see how much you really know about taking care of the planet. It also supports the US Department of Agriculture Forest Service and our park rangers.

Know before you Go

Do research about the areas you plan to visit online or contact the

local visitor center. Check out road conditions, weather, and available facilities. Be sure to bring all the basics: food, extra water, and a bag to take trash home with you. Packing extra items such as sunscreen, extra clothing layers, a basic first aid kit, rain gear and a map is always a safe bet.

Don't Be a Party Pooper

Pet waste is a health hazard for both people and animals. Pet waste can lead to the rise of invasive species and can spread diseases which harms water, plants and wildlife that call this place home. Pack out your pet waste. Need to go but bathrooms are closed? First, walk at least 70 steps away from trails, water, and people. If you must poop, either 1) Dig a "cat hole" 6 inches deep, dispose of your waste in the hole, cover it, and pack out your toilet paper, or 2) Pack out your waste.

Trash Talk

Pack it in, pack it out! Pick up all your trash and pack it out or dispose of it in a trashcan. Natural items such as orange and banana peels, apple cores and nutshells

can take years to decompose. Pack those out too. Food scraps attract and harm wildlife, which in turn can put people at risk.

Better Together

We all share the outdoors. Everyone may have different ideas and expectations about what it means to be outside but we all must be respectful of others we encounter. Let's all do our part to make the outdoors inclusive and welcoming to everyone. A friendly smile at people you encounter can go a long way.



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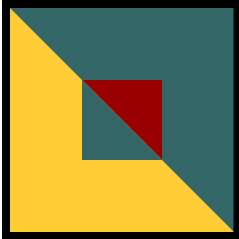
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Be Mountain Ready By Ron Prentice

Howdy, with us heading into winter, I thought I would pen a monthly article sharing some of my back country packing knowledge and that of friends Smoke Elser and Bill Brown of Montana in their book.

“Packing in on Mules and Horses”

Before any trip to the back country with your livestock it is imperative to have everything you need planned out and a litany of recommendations from your vet. When preparing for a trip safety should be at the top of your list of necessities for your animals first and then for you. In this article I will go over a basic list of things needed to make sure that you can care for your stock in an emergency and how to be effective doing it. So, you can have an enjoyable time and get back safely.

First, I am going to list the things that should be stocked in a Wilderness trip first Aid kit for your riding and pack stock. For a trip lasting more than 3 days, you can add to or take away from according to du-

ration of trip and your needs. This is just what most outfitters would have on a trip with more than three head of stock.

Banamine injectable solution for Colic and 2 10cc Luer lock syringes and multiple twenty gage Needles to fit Luer Lock syringes, The reason for this type of Syringe is, the needle locks on the syringe so does not come off easily. Keep these in a zip lock bag so they do not become contaminated along with several pairs of Nitrile disposable gloves. Visit your vet about how to inject and learn how to give IV or in the muscle. IV is quicker acting and can a horse’s life.



- ◆ Vetericyn spray,
- ◆ Lidocaine from your vet to deaden affected area, and suture material a medical staple gun if can find one.
- ◆ Nitrofurazone cream for gall sores in the cinch area.

- ◆ Corona salve for back sores
- ◆ Hydrogen peroxide for initial cleaning of wounds.
- ◆ Epsom Salts for puncture wounds and cuts (applied in the form of a paste), clean water, and Epsom salts directly on wound and wrap, it will prevent scarring.
- ◆ 2 to 3 rolls of Vet Wrap
- ◆ Gauze pads: several.
- ◆ 1 to 2 easy boots shoeing equipment the minimum for replacing a shoe, hammer, Rasp, nails.
- ◆ Everyone in the back county should carry an emergency beacon or Sat phone and a “Handgun” of a Caliber large enough to humanely put down an animal with a broken leg or such.

All this can fit in a Tupper ware container with a snap to less the handgun. It is better to be prepared and know how to render aid to an injured animal if needed.

Happy trails,

Ron Prentice - Next month Human First aid kit and safety.

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Notes from the Newsletter Team

As some of you read in last months minutes, we are going to start eliminating some of the news letters. These four newsletters will not be sent out: December, February, April and August.

On those months I will be sending out Meeting reminders, and any other important information that needs to go out.

Pee on the electric fence they said . .
It'll be fun they said

Thank you in advance

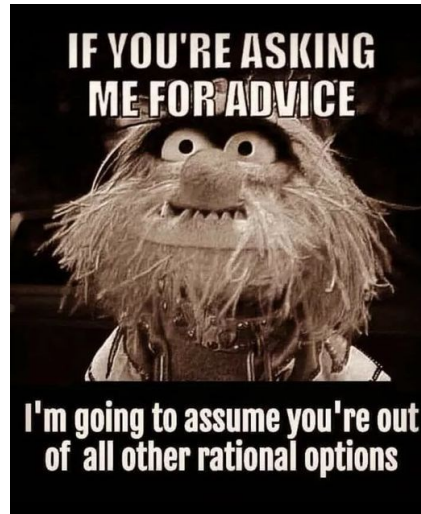
**Tracy and Sally Kiger
Newsletter Team**



Membership Team

Remember it is renewal time for your membership.

**Thank you in advance
Sally Kiger
Membership**



2023 Appointed Chairs

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2023
January

February

March

April

May

June

July

15th Fun Ride

August

September

October

November

13th Chapter Meeting

December

NO CHAPTER MEETING

NOTE

Weed Free Hay is required on National Forest Lands.

***Always looking for people with a purpose/ideal/desire to take the lead and sponsor a group outing.....best if drive



Red shirts - POLYESTER - with newest logo (Front only!)



Neon Orange - COTTON - with regular logo (front & back) Ladies

time approx 5 hours or less. ***

Submitted by Ken Evans

pkevans@tds.net

I would be happy to meet people at feed stores in:

- ◆ BG,
- ◆ Freddy's Cascade Park,
- ◆ Salmon Creek, Hazel Dell...etc.

Anyone interested, have questions...can get ahold of me directly, via either :

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Cell #: (360) 281-6004

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Mail to:
BCHW Membership Chair
 11404 210th Ave Ct E
 Bonney Lake, WA 98391



Mt St Helens

Member Info

Check One: New Member Renewal Secondary Chapter Application Only

Adult's name(s): _____

Children's name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____

BCHW Newsletters: Two Trailhead Newsletters will be mailed out per year, the other 4 are digital.
 All 6 newsletters are viewable online at BCHW.org Our Turnpike emailed newsletters go out 6 times a year.

STATE MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Basic Memberships		All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid once each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$41.00	Chapter Name: Mt. St. Helens
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	\$54.00	
Levels below include Single and Family			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contributing	\$75.00	If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW State dues were paid:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustaining	\$125.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron	\$250.00	Chapter Dues \$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benefactor	\$500.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifetime (Single)	\$1200.00	Please consider making a Chapter donation: \$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifetime (Family of 2)	\$2000.00	
Please consider making a State donation: \$		Chapter Subtotal \$	
State Subtotal \$		Grand Total (State+Chapter) \$	

NOTICES

By signing this membership application, you will agree to the terms of our Liability Release. You can read it on our website at bchw.org, under the Join tab. You also agree to receive notices from BCHW/BCHA by electronic transmission at the above email address.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Revised 9/13/2023

Countryside Veterinary Service

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