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[Waukesha County 4-H Horse Project](https://www.facebook.com/WaukeshaCounty4HProject)

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waukeshaco4Hhorse.org

CONTACT US 
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Mandatory Meeting Tuesday, January 27

The Waukesha County 4-H Horse and Horseless Horse Project mandatory meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 27 at 6:30pm** at the Waukesha County Library.

All Horse and Horseless Horse project members are required to attend to be in good standing. We will cover rules, expectations, and events for the year.

Please RSVP [HERE](#) to let us know you are coming! If you cannot make it to the meeting, please let us know in advance so we can make alternate accommodations.



Tack Sale Fundraiser Sunday, February 8

Looking to declutter your barn or make some extra cash? Rent a table at our Waukesha Co. **4-H Horse Tack Sale** and turn your gently used tack, gear, and supplies into profit! Vendor registration is open. Find more information on the website [HERE](#)

Looking for tack, clothes, toys, books, gifts, and more? The tack sale has something for everyone!

This is the Waukesha County 4-H Horse Project's largest fundraiser of the year. 100% of the proceeds benefit our youth's equestrian education through the 4-H Horse Project in Waukesha County.

Please mark your calendars. We need all hands on deck to make this a successful event. This year's tack sale will be held on **Sunday, February 8 from 9am to 1pm**

Volunteer Sign Ups! 

Upcoming Events:

- Horse Show Ribbon Art
 Sunday, December 7
- Horse Board Meeting
 Tuesday, December 9
- Model Horse Show Clinic
 Wednesday, December 10
- Project Days
 Sunday, January 4
- Horse Board Meeting
 Tuesday, January 13



Add the Horse Project calendar to your Google calendar [HERE!](#)

Upcoming 4-H Clinics & Activities

Horse Show Ribbon Craft—December 7



If you've got horse show ribbons piling up at home, come join us to create some fun show ribbon crafts! No ribbons, no problem! There will be plenty available for everyone to use. Create wonderful works of art full of great memories and have a great project ready to enter in the Waukesha County Fair!

Sign Up [HERE](#) by 12/5



Model Horse Showing Clinic—December 10



Do you love model horses? Have you ever thought about showing your model horses? Model horse showing is a growing activity. As a 4-H youth, you have the opportunity to show your model horse at the Waukesha County Fair or in the Wisconsin State 4-H Expo. Join us on December 10 at 6:30p at Les Paul Middle School in Waukesha to learn the basics about getting started from an experienced showman!

Sign Up [HERE](#) by 12/7





Featured 4-Hers of the Month

Waukesha 4-H Equine Ambassador—Michaela Joyce

My name is Michaela Joyce, I am currently 19 years old, this past year was my final year as 4-Her, after 8 years of being a part of the Waukesha County 4-H Horse Project. I showed both English and western in the 4-H classes, with my favorite class being English equitation. I have shown a few different horses throughout my years, but most recently showing my horses Red and Tally (both shown in the photo below). This past year I was awarded the position of Equine Ambassador, with this I do my part to represent the horse project. This fair I met so many different people and made so many different connections with different community members, showing the people of Waukesha county who we are and what we represent. Outside of 4-H, I show dressage, fox hunt, show at open shows, trail ride, and just enjoy the horses!

Meet the Board



Megan Peterson
President



Amie Lalor
Vice-President



Shelly Adkins
Secretary



Angie Conto-Smith
Treasurer

If you are an adult and are interested in helping to guide the future of our youth, we encourage you to attend our monthly virtual meetings and/or join the board. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.

Youth members are also encouraged to attend the board meetings and join our Youth Board. Time commitment is minimal, but the benefits could be substantial. Drop into the meeting to find out more!



**MEETING
MINUTES**



Horse Project Member—Wyatt Adkins

This will be Wyatt's third year in the horse project. He enjoys competing in the In-hand classes, halter, showmanship and in-hand trail. He recently lost his 4-H partner Zoey this year, who taught him so much. He looks forward to making a new partner this year out of either our 10 year old Quarter horse Duke, or our yearling POA Lacy. When Wyatt isn't practicing his in-hand patterns, he also enjoys playing basketball with upward sports, hunting and fishing.



Horseless Project Member—Annie Darelus

Annie, age 10 and in 5th grade, is a member of the 4-Leaf 4-H Club. This is her third year in the Horseless Horse project. She loves learning about all things horse-related and participates in hippology at shows and the county fair. In addition to horses, Annie enjoys volleyball, cheerleading, choir, and playing the violin.





The
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Grow



Availability Survey

We are in the planning stages for some exciting and educational activities for this year and would like to have as many members as possible be able to attend the events. We know that kids have busy schedules with sports, clubs, and other projects. Therefore, before we finalize dates, we want input from our members about their availability. Please complete our survey below to let us know what works for your family. Thank you!

[Click Here to Complete](#)



Healthy Treats

Us horse people love letting our horses try new foods. The funny faces they make are amazing, and finding a new favorite is always the best. Some horses are picky eaters, and some will eat anything within reach, so make sure to only feed them safe snacks! Some foods that we would assume are safe are actually dangerous for horses, so make sure to do your research before your next horsey taste test. Here are a few foods that your horse might love, and a few more that are best to stay away from:

1. DO feed your horse watermelon!

Many horses love watermelon, and even the rinds are usually a fan favorite. The high water content is great for hydration, but watermelon has vitamins and minerals that can help your horse. It contains vitamins A and C, as well as healthy fiber AND an amino acid that is known to increase blood flow.

2. DON'T feed your horse bread!

Bread seems harmless at first, but can actually cause lethal blockages, especially if fed in large amounts. When consumed, the bread can turn into a sticky, thick texture that has been known to cause colic.

3. DO feed your horse bananas!

Like people, horses benefit from the high potassium levels in bananas. Some people have been known to feed horses bananas (with the peel on!) for an extra boost at shows. The sweet taste means horses often like them, and they can even be mashed and mixed with medicine for easy feeding!

4. DON'T feed your horse avocados!

While many fruits and veggies are safe for horses, avocados are extremely dangerous. A substance called Persin comes from avocados, and it is highly toxic to horses. It can cause colic, as well as multiple other illnesses including neurologic dysfunction.

5. DO feed your horse grapes!

Grapes are small and easy to feed (they work great for stretching), and they are good for our four-legged friends. The fiber content in grapes, although not a lot in comparison to a horse's big body, can actually aid in digestion. Similar to other fruits, grapes are high in vitamin C and potassium, which are both very beneficial.

6. DON'T feed your horse chocolate!

If you have dogs, you know that chocolate is a no-go. It's the same for horses! The cocoa in chocolate contains theobromine which, when digested, can cause major issues. Even small amounts can be dangerous and large amounts can be fatal.

7. DO feed your horse pumpkin!

Pumpkins can make great treats, both raw and canned. It should be fed in moderation, but natural pumpkin can make a great treat, even for horses with Cushing's, PSSM, and insulin resistance. This is because pumpkin does not cause a glucose spike in a horse's blood when fed in small amounts.

8. DON'T feed your horse potatoes!

While potatoes may not be harmful in small amounts, it's best not to risk it. Larger amounts of potato can cause many health issues including cramping, shortness of breath, and colic. The severity of the symptoms usually increases with the amount eaten. (Bonus tip: sweet potatoes and yams are great for horses!)

9. DO feed your horse strawberries!

As you can see, many fruits are safe for horses, and can be a fun alternative to the traditional apples and carrots. Strawberries are a good size to feed safely, and contain magnesium, phosphorus, calcium, and potassium which are all good for horses (and humans!)

10. DON'T feed your horse dairy!

Once in adulthood, horses lose their ability to process lactose. This means that if a horse eats dairy, you'll most likely have a nasty case of diarrhea on your hands. To be safe, avoid feeding your horse yogurt, cheese, and other milk-based products.





Hippology Practice—Anatomy

Q: Which organ is absent in a horse?

A: Horses do not have a gallbladder. Bile flows constantly from the liver into the small intestine.

Q: How many bones does an adult horse typically have?

A: Adult horses typically have about 205 bones. The count can vary slightly depending on the individual.

Q: Can horses breathe through their mouths?

A: No, horses can only breathe through their nostrils.

Q: What is the normal resting heart rate for an adult horse?

A: The typical resting heart rate for an adult horse is around 28 to 44 beats per minute.

Q: How do horses sleep standing up?

A: Horses have a collection of anatomical structures called the "stay apparatus" that allows them to relax their muscles and doze without collapsing.

Q: What is the largest organ in a horse's body?

A: The skin is the largest organ, providing a protective barrier, regulating temperature, and giving a sense of touch.

Q: Where is the cannon bone located, and what is its proper name?

A: The cannon bone is found in the lower leg. It is the large third metacarpal (forelimb) or third metatarsal (hindlimb).

Q: What is the difference between the stifle and the hock?

A: The stifle is the joint equivalent to the human knee (femorotibial joint), located on the hind limb. The hock (tarsus) is the complex of small bones forming the hindlimb "ankle".

Q: What is the "chestnut," and where is it found?

A: The chestnut is a small, calloused, horny growth found on the inner side of a horse's legs. It is located just above the knee on the front legs and just below the hock on the hind legs. It is believed to be a vestigial remnant of a digit (toe) that the horse's evolutionary ancestors once possessed.

Q: What is the function of the "frog" on the underside of a horse's hoof?

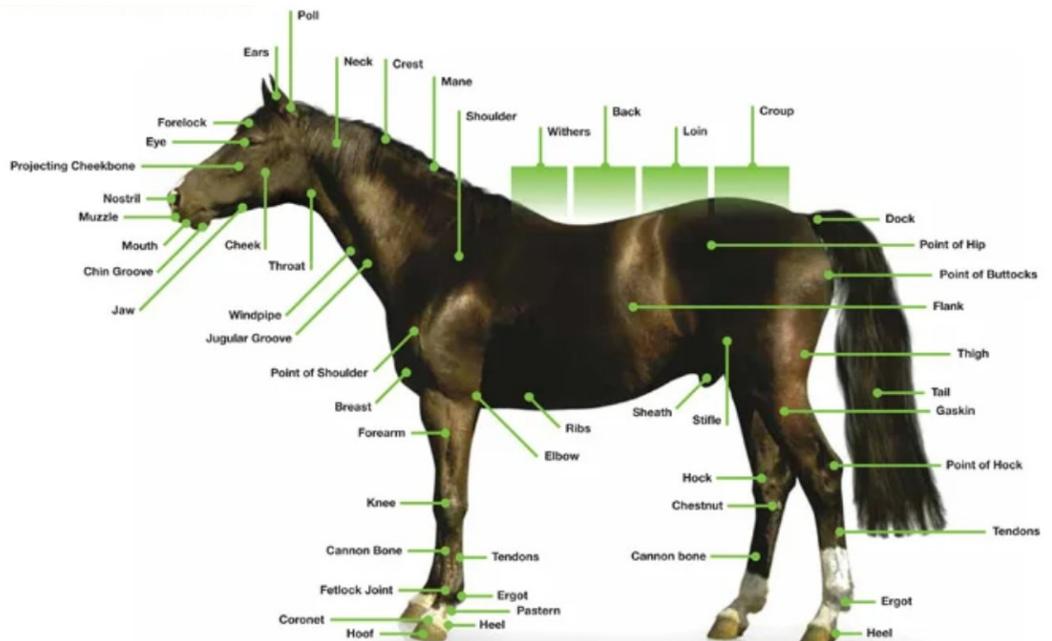
A: The frog is the V-shaped, elastic structure on the sole of the hoof that acts as a crucial shock absorber, aids in blood circulation by pumping blood back up the leg with each step, provides traction, and offers protection to sensitive internal structures like the digital cushion and navicular bone.

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To Make the Best
BETTER





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Horse Breeds



Arabian

Origin: Saudi Arabia
Characteristics: Dished face, arched neck, level croup, high tail carriage.
Temperament: Spirited and intelligent
Excels at: Endurance races
Fun Fact: Oldest domestic horse breed



Quarter Horse

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Small head, compact well-muscled body, powerful hindquarters
Temperament: Calm, docile, highly trainable
Excels at: Ranch work
Fun Fact: Name derived from speed in a quarter mile race



Mustang

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Vary between different herds, however they are athletic and surefooted
Temperament: Vary between different herds
Excels at: Ranch work
Fun Fact: Mustangs are not technically wild, but are feral



Morgan

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Compact, muscular but refined, expressive head, arched neck
Temperament: Loyal and affectionate
Excels at: Driving and riding
Fun Fact: All are descendants of the stallion Justin Morgan



Thoroughbred

Origin: England
Characteristics: Lean, long body, short back, long legs. Known for speed and agility
Temperament: Intelligent, energetic, and spirited
Excels at: Racing and jumping
Fun Fact: Race horses run at around 40 miles per hour



Belgian Draft

Origin: Belgium
Characteristics: Tall, heavy, and strong.
Temperament: Docile, friendly, and willing
Excels at: Pulling
Fun Fact: There are more Belgians in the US than all other draft breeds combined



Haflinger

Origin: Austria and Italy
Characteristics: Short but well muscled. Always chestnut with flaxen mane and tail
Temperament: Quiet and kind natured
Excels at: Driving
Fun Fact: Developed as pack horses in mountainous terrain



Andalusian

Origin: Spain
Characteristics: Strong yet elegant, with arched neck. Known for long mane and tail
Temperament: Intelligent, sensitive, and docile
Excels at: Dressage
Fun Fact: Andalusians were not exported to US until 1962



Shetland Pony

Origin: Scotland
Characteristics: Short legs, strong for size, thick coat
Temperament: Friendly and gentle, but stubborn and headstrong
Excels at: Children's mount
Fun Fact: Shetlands grow no more than 42" in height



The More You Know

The More You Grow



To Make the Best BETTER

Horse Breeds



American Paint Horse

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Stock type horse with white coat markings
Temperament: Calm, docile, highly trainable
Excels at: Pleasure shows
Fun Fact: Coat patterns include overo and tobiano



Appaloosa

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Stock type horse with spotted markings, short mane and tail
Temperament: Gentle, spirited, highly trainable
Excels at: Family horse
Fun Fact: Developed by Nez Perce native Americans



Friesian

Origin: Netherlands
Characteristics: Strong, high-stepping black horse with high head carriage.
Temperament: Generally docile but can be fiery
Excels at: Dressage
Fun Fact: Friesians cannot have white except a small star



Tennessee Walking Horse

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Tall, refined, solid gaited horse with long neck.
Temperament: Calm
Excels at: Trail riding
Fun Fact: Known for its distinctive "running walk" gait



Hanoverian

Origin: Germany
Characteristics: Tall, powerful body, athletic movement, strong limbs
Temperament: Willing and trainable
Excels at: Eventing
Fun Fact: Hanoverians have won over 25 Olympic medals



Saddlebred

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Tall, high-stepping gaited horse with slim, arched neck
Temperament: Spirited yet gentle
Excels at: Saddle Seat
Fun Fact: Saddlebreds can have five different gaits



Pony of America

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Athletic, appaloosa colored pony with build similar to Quarter Horse
Temperament: Easygoing
Excels at: Western riding
Fun Fact: The first stallion was Arabian/Appaloosa/Shetland



Standardbred

Origin: United States
Characteristics: Muscular gaited horse with long body
Temperament: Willing and submissive
Excels at: Harness racing
Fun Fact: Standardbreds race at either a trot or a pace



Miniature Horse

Origin: Europe
Characteristics: Has confirmation and proportions similar to full-sized horses but are under 34"
Temperament: Intelligent, gentle, curious, sensible, and willing
Excels at: Driving
Fun Fact: Weighs around 250 lbs