

WALKABOUT FARM: SAFETY AND HARMONY RULES

Safety:

1. Know where the light switches are. Always turn your stall light off when finished, and all lights and fans if you are the last to leave.
2. Latch all stall doors and gates.
3. Keep the aisle clear whenever possible. Consider grooming or tacking up in your stall.
4. Clean up behind your horse, and yourself. Leave the barn as clean, or cleaner, than you found it.
5. If you see anyone smoking in the barn, chase them out with a stick. And no, they can't leave their cigarette butts on the ground, either.
6. Always wear an ASTM certified helmet when mounted. The helmet rule is non-negotiable. Boarders will be asked to leave who do not comply.
7. Have visitors complete the waiver form. Make sure they understand the form they are signing. Anyone may refuse to sign if he/she chooses. However, they must not be around horses on Walkabout Farm. Parents or legal guardians must sign for minors. Feel free to take some waivers home with you if that makes it easier to get signatures in advance.
8. Never feed, or approach anyone else's horse without specific permission from the owner.
9. It is your responsibility to keep children or visitors safe. Especially watch out for the tendency to put their hands and arms in grain feeders, or to walk straight up and touch a horse's mouth.
10. Wall fans may never be left on and unattended. Do not use extension cords.
11. If you have allergic reactions, make sure others know of it. If necessary, carry your EpiPen at all times. Make sure others are aware of your allergy.
12. Know where the contact list for all owners, the vet, farrier, etc is kept. (Beside the phone.!)
13. Chairs are not safe in the grooming areas. Please put your chair out of the line of traffic, and a safe distance from horses.
14. The First Aid kit is located on the shelf beside the washing machine.
15. Children under 12 are not allowed in the horse pastures without an adult.

You and your horse:

1. You are responsible for your horse's actions. If you have reason to expect a problem, give others advance notice and keep a safe distance away from other riders. You may need to ride in a different location until you can control your animal.
2. Statistically, most accidents occur during daily routines around a barn and on familiar trails. Be awake, be aware, and don't do anything stupid.
3. We all have bad days occasionally. If you are in a snit, please take it elsewhere. Your horse is a mirror of your emotional state. If you are unable to be calm and attentive, ride another day.
4. All horses must be treated humanely at all times. Use the least amount of pressure it takes to be effective. Make sure corrections are necessary, effective, and brief.
5. Use tack that fits your horse. Use the least severe equipment that your horsemanship level permits.
6. Do not feed your horse grain or hay. This is a staff duty. If you are helping staff with a regular feeding, follow their guidelines for hay and grain.
7. Please keep hand-feeding to a minimum. Horses tend to intrude into others personal space when looking for treats. This poses a safety hazard for staff and others.

You and Your Dogs:

1. The farm dogs have dibs. This is their home.
2. You are welcome to bring dogs only if you are with them and responsible for their behavior at all times.
3. Any dog that poses a safety risk to children, or to anyone, is barred from the property.
4. Any dog that fights is similarly barred.

Playing Nicely With Others

1. Walkabout Farm is a place for people to get away from the stress of every day life. Please be kind to one another, keep gossiping to a minimum, and respect one another.
2. Some people come to Walkabout to interact socially. Others come for peace, quiet and time alone with their horse. Respect the difference.
3. We are all equal here. No one gets preferential treatment. Staff works for the farm, not for individuals. Each person needs to be as independent as possible. Workers at Walkabout have been specifically told to take direction from Margie, not boarders.
4. If you have a problem or complaint, please talk to Margie. Complaining to others just sends out waves of unhappiness. All problems cannot be solved, but none can if we don't know about it. If your complaint is with another boarder, talk to that person in a courteous manner. Do not spread gossip.
5. We only have one wash pit with a drain. Take note if others are waiting, and be considerate. The RPD horses frequently have very little time for their grooming tasks before they are due to be on duty. Be aware, and be courteous. Many grooming tasks can be done elsewhere.
6. Please put your belongings away before you leave.
7. The refrigerator is for everyone to use. It's easy to confuse one bag of carrots with another, though, so please clearly mark your items, or keep them in separate bags. If you've brought extra, mark it for everyone to use. That said, don't get all in a twist if someone feeds your carrots or eats your Butterfinger. Easy, relax, keep it in perspective.
8. The radio is there for us all. If you are irritated by the sound, feel free to turn it off.
9. Mark your belongings when possible. Especially halters, lead lines, and brushes.
10. Keep your own cubby clean. Try not to spill out into the aisle or other's space. It is crowded, but extra room is available in the loft. Do not leave food in your cubby. It draws mice and rats and snakes. We will dispose of uncovered food in cubbies
11. Due to lack of space, cubbies are assigned for stall boarders. If you have a pasture boarded horse, please use your trailer or the loft for storage, or the back barn. If none of these options work for you, talk with Margie.
12. Respect differences of opinion. Respect differences of breed and riding preferences. No one's opinion counts more than anyone else's. No one is allowed to teach at Walkabout Farm without proof of liability coverage and specific permission for facility use.
13. Here at Walkabout, we have a history of wonderful boarders who become fast friends and a "barn family". Please do your part to carry on that tradition.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date: _____