



Northern Michigan Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation

rescue

rehabilitate

rehome

ADOPTION GUIDELINES

Please read these guideline carefully.

If there is any part of these adoption guidelines that you do not understand or have questions about, please contact Beth at 989-350-2971 or northernmichiganrescue@charter.net for more information.

Please be aware that there are fees for adopting a horse. Adoption fees are charged to help defer the costs of rehabilitating the horse. Adoption fees will vary and will be based on the horse's capabilities, health and the amount of training involved in order to place them. All adoption fees are returned to Northern Michigan Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation (hereafter know as NMHRR), a non-profit corporation, so that we may continue to care for new arrivals.

Although we understand that life happens and missing appointments is unavoidable, due to the volume of individuals who are failing to keep their appointments without any notification, NMHRR has been forced to implement the following policy regarding appointments and deposits placed on any horse.

Effective immediately, adoption applications must be filled out and submitted, with a one time, \$30.00, nonrefundable application fee, before any appointment will be made to meet the horse an applicant is interested in. If an applicant decides to adopt the horse, the application fee will be applied to the deposit or adoption fee for that horse. Should the adoption fail to take place, this application fee will be applied to any future considerations for adoption. This fee may be tax deductible but please contact your accountant regarding what constitutes a donation to a non-profit organization. Any deposit placed on a horse is also nonrefundable but can be transferred to another horse.

Northern Michigan Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation would also like to remind adopters that transportation of their adopted horse is their responsibility and the horse must be picked up within a reasonable frame of time or board payment in the amount of \$190.00 per month will be added to the adoption fee. Adopters may arrange to have NMHRR transport their horse for a fee of \$30.00 plus 1.00 per mile gasoline charge. Should an adopter arrange to have NMHRR transport their horse, it will only take place during a time period that is mutually convenient to both the adopter and NMHRR.

Any veterinary, farrier or other pre adoption checks are the sole responsibility of the adopter and that the adopter MUST be present or have made prior arrangements for payment of any visits. NMHRR encourages the use of the pre adoption veterinary checks, but we cannot and will not be responsible should an appointment be made and then missed and will not be held liable for any expenses associated with said appointment.

NMHRR will evaluate a horse to the best of their ability. However, NMHRR can only relay information pertaining to how a horse has reacted to various settings and circumstances and to pass on information obtained from previous owners. It must be understood that we can not predict how a horse will react to settings and circumstances outside the scope of our evaluation and can offer no guarantees or warranties. Adopters must understand that equine activities are considered dangerous and can result in serious injury and even death to persons engaging in these activities. Horses are subject to flight or fight instincts when placed in a situation in which the equine feels threatened. No amount of training can eliminate this instinct possessed by the equine and thus the equine is to be considered a possible danger to a rider and to those persons engaging in all activities involving the equine. NMHRR cannot be held responsible for any and all injuries or death associated with engaging in activities with this equine.

First time horse owners are welcome to adopt! We are affiliated with an excellent horse boarding facility that can provide board and lessons, so new owners can learn to ride and care for their horse in a secure environment. This is optional, but strongly recommended for those with limited experience.

Horses and potential families are carefully matched according to experience, abilities, intended use or any health issues that might require additional care. By doing this, we limit the potential for problems once the horse leaves our care. If multiple individuals or families qualify for adoption of the same horse, the individual or family that contacted Northern Michigan Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation first will be offered the opportunity to adopt first. If, for whatever reason they are unable or unwilling to complete the adoption process, the next candidates will be accepted.

The adoption application must be filled out and returned indicating which horse you are interested in. From this information, we can begin to determine whether or not you are a good match to the horse you are interested in.

We will talk with the references that you provide and arrange a time to visit the location the horse will be living. We ask that you, if possible, provide pictures of pasture, shelter and/or building the horse will be living in.

If we feel you may be a good match we will arrange for you to meet and interact with the horse. Initial visits are by appointment only. If you come and visit the horse you would like to adopt and we feel the horse would be a good match for your family, a nonrefundable adoption fee deposit is required to hold the horse while you arrange for transportation to your house or boarding facility, usually 20% of the total adoption fee. The adopter is responsible for this transportation. Arrangements can be made with NMHRR to transport the horse for an additional fee. The remaining portion of the adoption fee must be paid before the horse leaves the facility, unless other arrangements have been made.

If NMHRR feels that a particular horse would not be a good match, we may deny the application. **THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU MAY NOT ADOPT A HORSE.** Our goal is make a suitable match between both adopter and horse, in an effort to prevent future problems and disappointment. If the application for a particular horse is denied, another may be of a more suitable match. Potential adopters may request the type of horse they would like and will be notified when one comes available.

ANY INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED IN THE CARE OF THIS HORSE, WITH ANY TYPE OF (PAST OR PRESENT) CHARGES OR CONVICTION OF ANIMAL CRUELTY OR NEGLECT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ADOPTING A HORSE THROUGH NORTHERN MICHIGAN HORSE RESCUE AND REHABILITATION. IF IN THE EVENT AN ADOPTER IS EVER CONVICTED OF ANY TYPE OF ANIMAL CRUELTY OR NEGLECT AFTER THE HORSE IS IN THEIR POSSESSION, THE HORSE IS TO BE RETURNED TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN HORSE RESCUE AND REHABILITATION AT ADOPTER'S EXPENSE AND OWNERSHIP TRANSFERRED BACK TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN HORSE RESCUE AND REHABILITATION.