

Involvement

CHC has been involved with the following issues:

- Stopping anti-horse zoning regulations from being enacted in various towns including Oxford, Southbury, Monroe, Tolland and Lebanon.
- Working against state legislation such as mandatory licensing, increased taxes, and prohibiting use of bits.
- CHC has introduced pro-horse legislation including bills relating to access for horses to trails, and mandatory education for Animal Control Officers. We have also actively supported legislation relating to farmland preservation, the creation of an equine liability law, training of animal control officers, and a repeal of the equine property tax.
- CHC has been called upon to assist local and federal law enforcement in dealing with seized horses.
- CHC is a partner organization with the state animal response team (SART), which has been established to deal with animals during times of emergency or disaster.
- We continue to closely monitor the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) as proposed by the USDA.
- CHC established a firefighter training program in order to familiarize fire departments with how to handle horses in an emergency.

Member Benefits

CHC members have various discounts available to them including savings with; Dodge, John Deere, FedEx, Sherwin Williams, Lexmark, Office Max, and Hallway Feeds.

Members also receive our newsletter, and important alerts.

Business members may post their weblinks on our website, and receive a line in the newsletter. We also allow member brochures to be placed in our booth at various events.

All members of CHC receive the benefit of educational programs, and CHC action at the Capitol.

The Connecticut Horse Council Inc. always welcomes the public, as well as members and their guests to our monthly meetings. Meetings are scheduled on the first Tuesday of each month from October through June in the community room at the Northeast Utilities Complex, which is located on the Berlin Turnpike (Routes 5 & 15, Berlin). Meetings start at 7:30 pm.

***Membership dues made this brochure possible.
Please consider joining CHC so that we may
continue to serve the industry.*

**The Connecticut Horse Council Inc. CHC ©
2007**

Who We Are, What We Do

The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc.



United in Leadership, Service and
Education since 1971

The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 57, Durham CT 06422
www.cthorsecouncil.org
860-482-9500

History

The original Connecticut Horse Advisory (1969-1970) was formed to defeat proposed legislation that would have prohibited the use of bits, spurs and other devices. The Advisory ultimately evolved into the Connecticut Horse Council (CHC) which was incorporated in June 1971.

Since that time, CHC has expanded. We are now a non-profit organization with a vision to be recognized as the leader in all issues concerning the Connecticut horse industry. Every Connecticut horseperson and those who serve the industry need to be represented when discussions take place regarding the future of Connecticut's horse community. CHC is designed to provide this representation.

We are an affiliate of the American Horse Council, whose primary concern is to oversee federal legislation, including taxes, which affect the horse industry.

We are made up of individual members, businesses, organizations, and affiliates.

We continually lobby at the local, state and federal levels to promote equine related issues, and defend the industry from any negative legislation, zoning or regulation. We also serve as an educational resource as needed.

Legislation

CHC is actively involved with legislation in order to protect the interests of equestrians. We monitor any legislation that impacts horses, including issues related to farmland preservation, taxation, property rights and the environment. We testify at hearings, provide information to legislators, and have directly pursued legislation on behalf of CHC members. We are the voice of the industry at the state capitol.

Roadsafe

CHC was directly responsible for legislation that ensured the Department of Motor Vehicles implemented regulations regarding motorists and horses. CHC created an educational "roadsafe" brochure for motorists which can be found in all DMV offices.

Insurance

CHC is able to direct members with insurance concerns to appropriate agencies. CHC members sponsoring group events, shows, clinics, trail rides, etc., may be eligible for coverage under the CHC umbrella policy, the fee is determined by the event.

SART

CHC is a "partner" organization with the State Animal Response Team (CTSART). This entity is made up of state and private agencies and groups, and will facilitate emergency planning for animals during disasters.

Equestrian Center

CHC continues to push for the creation of an Equestrian Center in the state of Connecticut. We firmly believe that our state has a large and viable horse industry which would compliment such a facility. An Equestrian Center would bring revenue and jobs to our state.

Volunteer Horse Patrol

In 2003, in response to state budget cuts, CHC worked with the Department of Environmental Protection to create a volunteer horse patrol. Members of the patrol provide additional eyes and ears in the state Parks and Forests. The patrol helps improve relations between horseback riders and other trail users. They log over 1,000 hours each year which translate into taxpayer savings.

Fire Prevention

In 2006, CHC rolled out a barn fire training and prevention program. Training sessions and workshops have been held for both barn and horse owners, as well as firefighters. It has been well received by participating fire departments, many of whom had no prior experience with large animals.

Trails

CHC represents equestrian trail interests with membership on several Department of Environmental (DEP) Advisory Boards and an appointment on the Connecticut Greenways Council. Through legislation we also created the state "Equine Advisory Council" to work with DEP on equestrian access to trails.

Zoning

CHC assists individuals and local governments with zoning issues pertinent to horses. We are actively involved in ensuring that zoning regulations remain horse-friendly throughout the state. We have provided information on proper horse keeping to towns when needed, and assisted residents when battling attempts to eliminate horses or livestock in their respective towns.

Education

CHC offers lectures, demonstrations, publications, and workshops. We often partner with the University of Connecticut and the Cooperative Extension Service to provide informative symposiums.

CHC actively works with the state, the federal government, other organizations, and individuals to promote Connecticut's horse industry, and maintain the rights of its horse community. We are united in leadership, service and education.