



To schedule a home check email:

homecheck@coloradohorserescuenetwork.com

### Home Requirements for Fosters/Adopters

Welcome to the Colorado Horse Rescue Network (CHRN) home requirements for potential fosters/adopters. This guide provides the general facility and care requirements necessary to be considered as a suitable home for our rescue horses.

Should you decide to become a foster/adopter of a CHRN horse(s), a home inspection is required before the horse will be released to your care and custody. The personnel that will conduct the home inspections are carefully selected volunteers who have considerable knowledge regarding horse keeping, training and handling. Their purpose is to provide an objective assessment of your facility and level of experience to ensure that the rescue horse you prefer to foster/adopt is the right fit for your facility and level of experience. Some rescue horses have special needs and requirements that not all fosters/adopters can support. Some rescue horses require experienced handling and training that not all fosters/adopters are able to accomplish. Sometimes the horse you may prefer to foster/adopt may not be the best fit for you but we can usually recommend another horse from our herd that may be more appropriate. Although CHRN assumes no liability for the risks associated with fosters/adopters engaging in equine activities, CHRN still remains committed to attempting to mitigate that risk through the home inspection and rescue horse selection process.

Out of state adopters (fostering is not permitted out of state) may still be considered for adoption of a CHRN rescue horse. There are methods by which a home inspection can be conducted from a distance. Each situation will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Please note: Two-horse straight load trailers represent a significant risk of injury both to horse and human due to the severely confined space of many two-horse straight load trailers.** *As such, No CHRN foster horse will be permitted to be transported in a 2-horse straight load trailer at any time. Injury and resulting vet cost that may result from injury to the fostered CHRN rescue horse for failing to comply with this prohibition will be at the expense of the foster and not CHRN. Adopted CHRN horses may not be picked up at a CHRN facility using a two-horse straight load trailer.*

Please review the foster and/or adoption agreements so that you may familiarize yourself with requirements that are expected of all fosters/adopters. [adoption agreement](#).

## Facility Requirements for Personal Property, Private Boarding Facilities and Commercial Boarding Facilities

- ✓ No more than one head of horse per .5 acre or in compliance with county zoning
- ✓ Areas occupied by horse(s) must be free of debris, trash, and any items that could cause injury
- ✓ Horse(s) cannot be permitted to be harassed by dogs on the property
- ✓ All fencing must be a minimum height of 4 feet and be in good repair
- ✓ Barbed wire fencing is permitted provided the barbed wire fence is minimum 3-strands and the area of containment is a minimum size of 2.5 acres
- ✓ Three-rail vinyl fencing is only permitted with at least one hotwire run on the top of the fence
- ✓ Fencing cannot be hotwire only. Hotwire may be combined with barbed wire, double-strand smooth wire, 3-rail vinyl or wood fencing
- ✓ No climb fencing must have openings no larger than 2" x 4" and be at least 14 gauge
- ✓ No other galvanized mesh fencing meant for smaller livestock, birds, dogs, etc. is permitted
- ✓ Shelter must be 3 sided with roof and in good repair. Shelter space must accommodate size and number of horses
- ✓ Clean, fresh water must be available 24/7 – including in winter
- ✓ Horse(s) kept in box stalls must have at least 10' x 10' space. Horse(s) housed in box stalls must have turn out of some kind as often as possible – ideally daily with weather permitting
- ✓ Adopters must commit to the financial commitment of providing all necessary vet and farrier care
- ✓ Fosters/Adopters must commit to the financial commitment of providing horse quality forage/feed in quantity to maintain healthy body condition
- ✓ First time horse owners must have an experienced mentor/trainer to assist them if the horse is housed on their personal property or board the horse at an approved facility that has experienced supervision on site
- ✓ Fosters/adopters may be asked about their handling/training/riding experience. It is in the best interest of the foster/adopter and the rescue horse(s) that the foster/adopter not inflate his or her experience.