

# Utah 4-H Biosecurity

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## Utah 4-H State Horse Event Policy:

These policies have been put in place to ensure the safety and health of your horses. There have been many current outbreaks of potentially fatal diseases going around the United States, and Utah State University is taking active measures to promote equine health. This policy is in effect for all Utah 4-H State Events. It is recommended for county horse shows.

## Preventing Disease

### Vaccinations

1. Each horse attending a Utah 4-H State Event must be vaccinated for Equine Influenza and Rhinopneumonitis (EHV).
  - a. The vaccination must be for a date between 6 months and 2 weeks prior to the date of the event.
  - b. As part of the registration, the owner of the horse must certify that the horse has received these vaccinations (including date of vaccinations).
  - c. The vaccination does not have to be administered by a veterinarian.
2. 5 Days Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with horse temperature written on the certificate (multiple day events only). Horses will not be unloaded until check-in process is complete.

### Temperature

- a. Each horse must have their temperature checked every day for the 3 days (including the morning of) prior to the horse show. For example, if the show is on Friday, participants will check Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning.
- b. It is recommend that each horse must have their temperature checked each day of the horse show.
- c. Horses with a temperature over 101.5°F at any temperature reading will not be allowed at the event. Any horse at a multiple day event that has a temperature over 101.5°F must be examined by the show veterinarian at owner's expense.

### Clinical Signs

1. Each horse must be checked for the following symptoms before leaving for the horse show and each day of the horse show. If they exhibit any of the clinical signs, they must have written veterinarian approval to come to the show:
  - a. Nasal discharge
  - b. Elevated temperature
  - c. Coughing
  - d. Difficulty breathing
  - e. ADR ("Ain't Doin Right")
2. If any of these symptoms are exhibited at the show, the Safety Officer can request a veterinarian inspection at owner's

## Understanding Vaccinations

1. Risk Based - these diseases are communicable between horses and are recommended every six months
  - a. Equine Influenza
  - b. Rhinopneumonitis (EHV)
  - c. Strangles (consult veterinarian before implementing)
2. Core Vaccines - Recommended for all horses. Discuss with your veterinarian.
  - a. West Nile
  - b. Eastern and Western Encephalitis
  - c. Tetanus
  - d. Rabies
3. Location Based - ask your veterinarian if this is needed for your area
  - a. Potomac Horse Fever

# Best Practices

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1. Before you bring a new horse home
  - a. Find out the vaccination status. Be specific - what exactly has this horse been vaccinated for? When exactly were they last vaccinated?
  - b. Have a vet check by the buyers vet and paid for by the buyer
  - c. Get a brand inspection
  - d. If crossing state lines, get a CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection) and Negative Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins)
  - e. Keep the new horse separated from other horses for 2 weeks
2. If there is a sickness at home (to the best of your ability based on location restrictions), try to quarantine the infected horse once you start seeing clinical signs. Be aware that most likely it has already spread - but it doesn't mean that it has.
  - a. Contact your vet
  - b. Quarantine the infected horse at least 30 feet away from other horses
  - c. Avoid nose to nose and/or direct contact
  - d. Avoid indirect contact
    - i. Don't pet the infected horse and then pet the other horses
    - ii. Feed the infected horse last
    - iii. DO NOT share tack, equipment or feed/water buckets
  - e. Keep the infected horse in quarantine for 2 weeks
  - f. Notify any neighbors with horses that are less than 30 feet away
3. Each time before you leave, check for the following clinical signs. If you see any of them, don't take the horse and contact your veterinarian.
  - a. Nasal discharge
  - b. Elevated temperature
  - c. Coughing
  - d. Difficulty breathing
  - e. Acting "off"
4. Good habits any time the horse is not at home
  - a. Try to avoid nose to nose and/or direct contact
  - b. Try to avoid indirect contact, touching multiple horses
  - c. Do not share tack and grooming tools
  - d. If you have to share, disinfect the equipment first. Keep disinfecting supplies as part of your tack rooms.
    - i. Chlorine:water in 1:10 ratio. Leave in contact for 10 minutes, then rinse.
  - e. Do not share feed and water buckets
  - f. Do not use a common tie rail or fence
  - g. Strip and disinfect stalls. Be courteous and completely strip your stall of all manure and bedding when you are done with it.
    - i. Chlorine:water in 1:10 ratio, air dry
  - h. Wash your hands frequently

## Resources

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AQHA Handbook <https://www.aqha.com/daily/health/2016/september/increase-biosecurity-measures-to-help-protect-horse-health/>

EDCC Website  
<http://www.equinediseasecc.org>