



Therapeutic Horsemanship Volunteer Guidelines

Please understand that our main goal at the Let's Saddle Up Riding Program is to provide a safe and beneficial experience for our riders and volunteers. With this in mind, we ask your cooperation in adhering to the following requirements:

1. Complete and turn in all paperwork (Volunteer Application Form, Release Form, and Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment). Questions about any of the forms should be directed to our Program Director, Sharron Dillard.864-871-1744.
2. Our riders benefit greatly from consistency in their support team, so (as much as we are able to do this) we are encouraging volunteers and riders to form a team for the entire session.
 - a. If you can, also, be a substitute on a different day, please let us know.
 - b. If you have specific personal goals or new skills you wish to learn, let us know so we can help you to achieve your wishes.
3. At no time should open toe shoes or sandals be worn. Please avoid dangling jewelry, which may be unsafe, and perfume, which can attract insects.
4. Please SIGN IN each day that you volunteer.
5. We and your team greatly depend on you! Always let your Program Coordinator know if you cannot attend a lesson. The more advanced notice you are able to give us, the better able we will be to fill your slot for that lesson.
6. If you are allergic to insect bites, it is important that you bring medication each time you come to the farm.
7. Please, no gum chewing. It is dangerous for our riders to have anything in their mouths while riding, and as volunteers working with them, you'll be setting a good example for them.
8. For sidewalkers and leaders, please learn your job description. The better you understand your role, the better volunteer you will be and the better support you will be able to give your rider. As a reminder, leaders are responsible for the horses and sidewalkers are responsible for the riders.
9. NO cell phone or personal items are to be carried or used during lessons.
10. Please help your rider stay focused by avoiding non-essential conversation during the lessons. Know what your rider's goals are to help in their attainment.
11. If you are uncomfortable with a given horse or team, please talk to the instructor. We want you to feel comfortable and happy, and will endeavor to make necessary adjustments.