

VHC Equine Industry Summit
Group 2- Recreation and Land Use
Submitted by Lucinda Newman

Brain Storming Topics:

- * Educating horses owners on their responsibilities on public and private lands
- *Liability issues
 - Private/ other posting / Vermont laws
- Knowledge of places - resources to ride - when available?
- Overlap with tourism
- Import regulations – awareness needed!
- Grant opportunities -- in state + out of state.
- Inner state connections
- Keeping trails OPEN - expand trails! Multiuse
- *Responsible land development
- Orgs/Assoc> connect at venues, shows, etc.
- Connect with VAST+VASA +VMBA (Vermont MB Assoc.)
- ANR Land Use Plans → cultivate
- Opportunity: Horse powered Forest and Ag → land use liabilities/management
- Forest, Parks + Rec = fees in winter? Operating season

Future Ideas, Research, How To's and Follow Ups:

- Back-country horse org, National Forest Service -- form a Vermont chapter?
- Dog River Club → has an ATV group connection
- Awareness/ knowledge of privately-owned land/ liability
- Talk with other state RE trail systems
- Real estate agents speak to neighborhoods
- Trail handbooks for communities to list their property
 - Ex: Underhill Travel Assoc.
- Vermont Cross Trails
 - Statewide org has local chapters
 - Vermont Trail system
 - Long Distance Riders (National group)

More Notes:

Educating landowners RE laws in Vermont

Layers of protection - insurance and waivers for the riders to sign -->
through organizations / clubs / assoc.

Sharing land is positive!!

Group + agencies + orgs coming together → network+ collaborate to educate land owners on land i.e. Laws protections.

Define "recreation"

(vs. ATV, snowmobiles, etc.)

*Educating horse riders etc. on private land responsibilities

Need a guiding document to use

Regular communication → b/t horse owner and land owners

* Ag literacy on horses, damages, etc. .. Then stigma will decrease

Goals And Timelines:

Now → 2 yrs:

Guiding documents with consistent laws / liabilities, etc. to be disseminated to land owners and riders

Map to identify already-existing areas / lands/ neighbors that allow riding on their property.

Horse Owner Responsibilities Info - disseminate with trail info

3-5yrs:

Statewide connection of public + private trails and lands.

*** Topics that came up a lot and strongly = most important**