



Finger Lakes SPCA

Serving Steuben County and the Finger Lakes Region

72 Cameron Street
Bath, New York 14810

Telephone: 607-622-5363 E-mail: jeff@fingerlakesspca.org Website: www.fingerlakesspca.org

EQUINE ADOPTION INFORMATION

Our equine adoption process is in place to assure that all horses are properly matched to caring, competent and long-term homes. We encourage people to take their time when considering adopting a horse. The cost of caring for a single horse is a minimum (emergencies excluded) of \$2,500 a year. Horses can live to be thirty years or more and to care for them properly requires special knowledge and usually practical care experience. An adopter has to have this knowledge and experience or has to know how to seek it out, apply it and rely on other more experienced horse people for support and assistance. Depending on the facilities, support help, equipment you have and other factors (such as a horse's individual training level, etc.) taking care of an equine can also be labor intensive. Day-to-day care could require mucking out stalls, picking feet, carrying grain, water and supplies, providing hay, medicating an ill horse, moving and handling, etc. It is a big commitment.

It is our goal that the horse be placed in an environment that will assure his/her health and safety for the long-term. We also desire for the adopter to be very happy with the placement, as this factor is imperative in building a strong bond between the adopter and the animal. Naturally, this also helps build good relations for the SPCA. For these reasons, we have a process in place and try to feel out as many concerns as possible ahead of time. This also helps avoid the horse having to go through multiple transitions/homes (which can be the source of behavior problems and result in the horse developing habits that could affect his/her overall future adoptability and stability).

Because we understand that adoption of a rescue horse is not for everyone, we do have some restrictions as part of our adoption agreement which you should know up front. We have these restrictions because there is a nationwide overpopulation of equines. This overpopulation results in a great deal of needless suffering for these noble and magnificent animals. Moreover, because caring for a horse humanely requires specialized knowledge, facilities, significant financial resources and commitment, as mentioned above, and because these horses have already been the victims of severe neglect, we have clauses in our adoption contract which restrict the following:

1. We do not allow breeding of any kind for these animals.
2. Transfer of ownership is restricted.

Equine Adoption Fees are variable. The fee for a horse ranges from \$200 to \$1,000 and is dependent on an individual equine's training level. It defrays a portion of the expenses already incurred for the good care of the horse. You can confirm the adoption fee for a particular equine by calling 607-622-5363.



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ADOPTION PROCESS:

1. Return or email (to Jeff@fingerlakesspca.org) a completed equine adoption application. Equine adoption applications can be found on our website (fingerlakesspca.org) or obtained from our shelter on 72 Cameron St. in Bath.
2. You will be contacted by an equine program staffer to learn more about your needs and to discuss horses available for adoption.
3. Steps one and two need to be completed before you can set an appointment to visit an equine.
4. If we have an available horse(s) who is a match for your requirements, a mutually convenient appointment will be scheduled to visit him/her.
5. To handle or work with any of our rescue horses at the stable, you will need to first sign a hold harmless waiver. Please note: All handling will occur under the supervision and at the discretion of the stable owner or on-site trainer.
6. If during or after you visit you decide you are interested in a particular horse, please let us know.
7. Finger Lakes SPCA (FLSPCA) staff will then schedule a visit to your farm, stable or residence.
8. After the site visit is complete, please call the shelter (607-622-5363) to arrange a meeting for us to discuss questions or concerns either of us may have and to review the equine's medical history and terms of the adoption/adoption agreement. Our adoption agreement can also be obtained on our website (fingerlakesspca.org) or from our shelter on 72 Cameron St. in Bath.
9. Following successful completion of the site visit, reference check and aforementioned meeting, the adoption agreement can be finalized.

All adoptions are at the discretion of F.L.SPCA staff.