Weekly Pile for Week of January 8 2012

Howdy Folks,
Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of January 8, 2012, Extension's Equine related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties. To have something included in the Weekly Pile, please follow these simple guidelines.
- Information included needs to be educational in nature & or directly related to Rockingham or Guilford Counties.
- Please E-mail information to me by Wednesday each Week.
- Please keep ads or events as short as possible – with NO FORMATTING with NO unnecessary Capitalization’s, and NO ATTACHED DOCUMENTS. (If sent in that way, it may not be included)
- Please include contact information - Phone, Email and alike.
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send into me.
If I forgot to include anything in this email it was probably an oversight on my part, but please let me know!
If you have a question or ideas that you would like covered in the Weekly Pile, please let me know and I will try to include.
As Always – I would like to hear your comments about the Weekly Pile or the Extension Horse Program in Rockingham or Guilford Counties!

Included in This Weeks Pile:
1. Equine Herpes Virus 1 Update
2. Use of Round Bales
3. 2012 Extension Horse Management Series
4. You Asked
5. 2012 NC Forage & Grasslands Council Winter Conference January 25th Greensboro
6. Carolina Equine's Winter Horse Health Seminar February 4 at Northern Elementary School
7. Bryan Park Workday
9. Southern National Draft Horse Pull
10. Small Poultry Flock All Day Seminar January 19, 2012
11. Shiitake Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshops
12. 2012 Conservation Stewardship Program Sign-Up
13. New Service-NC Choices Livestock and Meat Classifieds list-serve!
14. HAY DIRECTORY
15. Take A Load Off

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1. Equine Herpes Virus 1 Update
This is the release from Dr. Tom Ray concerning the EHV-1

Wednesday, 1/11/2012 Summary:

- There are 45 horses and 1 donkey under quarantine on 7 locations in 4 counties in NC; 37 of the animals are at a single premises, the other 9 on the remaining six quarantined location.
- Additionally, there are 7 horses traced out to Tennessee at two locations and 2 horses to Virginia at one location.
- Six of the seven quarantined locations in NC are expected to have their quarantine lifted by Tuesday, January 17, 2012 (assuming no fever spikes and/or observations of clinical signs).

As you can see, this situation is pretty much confined, all exposed animals have been located, quarantined, and being closely observed
for any fever spikes and/or clinical signs. NCDA&CS, Vet Division field staff have been in close and regular communication with owners at these sites and will continue to do so until all the quarantines are lifted. Because the sites were identified, the exposed animals located and quarantined so quickly after suspicion of EHV-1, there has not been a recommendation to cancel equestrian events in the state. Also, no other states have notified our State Veterinarian's Office of any movement restrictions on horses moving from North Carolina into their states.

If you have further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me by any of the methods listed below.

Thank you.

Tom Ray, DVM, MPH
Director, Animal Health Programs-Livestock
NCDA&CS, Veterinary Division
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Raleigh, NC  27699-1030
919-733-7601 Office
919-733-2277 FAX
Tom.Ray@ncagr.gov

For NCDA&CS Veterinary Updates & Information go to http://www.ncagr.gov/vet/DiseaseAlerts.htm

2. Feeding Round Bales

Last week in the Pile there was information about using round bales. Below are some things to consider.

Round bales can be used most of the time with no issues or problems by those who have good husbandry skills & closely monitor their animals. They take some effort to feed properly and can provide very inconsistent nutrition and there can be issues with using them.

The main concerns when feeding round bales are mold and botulism.


Round bales can harbor mold spores which can put horses at a greater risk of respiratory disease. Since round bales are often stored outside & exposed to moisture. Round bales really need to be protected from rain and moisture so they don’t develop mold. When a round bale is in a paddock with only one or two horses, it will be exposed to the elements for an extended period and mold formation is likely.
Round bales that have been stored outside without cover usually have a large amount of mold spoilage and should not be used for horses.

Some horses may have the tendency to overeat when having free access to round baled hay.

So to address concerns you must be aware of the way round bales are usually stored and used. A round bale will not pose an unusual hazard to your horse if it is stored in a dry place after it is baled through the time it is fed. If you feed outside and want to use a round bale, just store the round bale in an enclosed, dry place and only take out as much as your horse(s) will eat in one feeding.

Water intake can be of concern anyway. If the horses are being fed cured hay, they are not getting the moisture intake that they would be getting if grazing live forage and their Dry Matter intake has increased, thus less moisture in the digestive tract. Drinking water intake should be closely monitored so you are not heading for impaction colic. Remember that water temperature also affects water intake.

Like any hay I am concerned about quality, THE ONLY WAY TO KNOW QUALITY IS TO HAVE IT TESTED. You cannot tell quality by looking at it.

On a negative side, I have seen where one who simply uses round bales so they don’t have to take the time to throw hay out when needed or so they don’t have to look at the horses every day. Their thinking is that the horse (s) will have enough hay to last them x # of days. Many times this is when the horses & other things fall into question. Horses, waterers, fences & other things will not be checked like they should each day and any problems may not be seen until things get bad. So this practice can actually further the neglect problems that are in our area.

I know that many find it convenient & relatively easy to put one round bale in the pasture for days or longer to feed the horses. This increased exposure to the elements creates a fertile breeding ground for mold. Using round bales may save you a lot of time but they can end up costing you more in the end.

I came across this that I wanted to share.

Selecting a Round-Bale Feeder For Use During Horse Feeding
http://www.extension.umn.edu/horse/components/pdfs/round_bale.pdf

The best hay for horses is clean hay. Hay that is moldy or dusty should not be fed to horses, even if the amount of mold or dust appears to be minor. Any kind of hay that contains dust or mold can inflame the respiratory tract and impair breathing.

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3. 2012 Guilford County Extension Horse Management Short Courses
Guilford County Agricultural Center
3309 Burlington Road
Greensboro, NC 27405
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Monday, January 30 Horse Health – Emergencies & Quarantine: Equine Herpes Virus, Strangles, Colic, Cuts and Eyes Dr. Cindy Kimbrell, Mid State Equine
Monday, February 6  Ask A Vet – Carolina Equine Hospital – Panel of Veterinarians from Carolina Equine will be coming to take Questions from participants.

Monday, February 13  Horse Tack & Equipment – The How’s & Why’s – Robin Lynn, NCSU Extension Horse Husbandry

Monday, February 20  Mules & Donkeys – Encourage & Educate Horse Management participants about the mule and donkey industry – Shannon Hoffman, The Carolina Mule Association

Monday, February 27  Land Use & Present Use, Building Codes & Laws, Annexation/ETJ’s, Water Regulations & Watershed Rules & other New Laws which is pertinent to NC Horse Owners. NC Farm Bureau, NC Horse Council – Sue Gray

Monday, March 5  Endurance Riding – American Endurance Ride Conference, Education Committee

Monday, March 12  Horse Judging – Western & Huntseat – Dr. Mike Yoder, NCSU Extension Horse Husbandry Specialist

Monday, March 19  SWAP SHOP – Bring items to Sell/Trade or buy that something you need!

Horse Management Committee – Randy Boles, David Dick, Sara Jo Durham, Steva Allgood, Rita Nott, & Georgianne Sims

- Registration Fee: $30 for entire series or $5.00 per session.
- Registration Fee will be waived for 4-H members presenting an official current 4-H Program Membership ID Card.

For additional information, call Ben Chase, Rockingham & Guilford County Extension Livestock Agent, North Carolina
Cooperative Extension Service  1-800-666-3625, 342-8235
Email- ben_chase@ncsu.edu.

In case of inclement weather, please call 1-800-666-3625 or 342-8235 for a recorded message.

Directions to The Guilford County Agricultural Center, Located at 3309 Burlington Road 375-5876 and can be found at http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/guilford/directions.shtml

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4. You Asked: What can we do to protect our horses & farms from the Herpes Virus?

Biosecurity — The Key to Keeping Your Horses Healthy
United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Biosecurity means doing everything you can to reduce the chances of an infectious disease being carried onto your farm by people, animals, equipment, or vehicles, either accidentally or on purpose.

Showing Your Horse

■ Use your own trailer. Don’t ship your horses with horses from other farms.

■ Ship only in a trailer that has been cleaned and disinfected. If you can “smell horse” in the empty trailer, it has not been cleaned and disinfected properly.

■ Don’t let your horse touch other horses, especially nose to nose.

■ Don’t share equipment (e.g., water, feed buckets, brushes, or sponges).

■ Wash your hands, especially after helping other people with their horses.

■ Don’t let strangers pet your horse, especially those with horses at home or people who have been out of the country in the past 2 weeks.

■ Before leaving the show grounds, clean and disinfect tack, boots, equipment, and grooming supplies. Brush off dirt or manure; then disinfect (spray or wipes are easy to take with you).

■ When you get home, shower, blow your nose, and put on clean clothes and shoes before going near other horses.

Visiting Other Farms, Horse Shows, or Auctions

■ Have a pair of shoes or boots that you save for visiting and don’t wear around your own horse.

■ Wear plastic shoe covers. Plastic bags from newspapers work well.

■ If you are going to be working with horses on another farm, wear coveralls or plan to change clothes before returning to your horse.
If there are farms you visit all the time and you can’t change clothes and shoes, be sure their vaccination program and biosecurity practices are as good as your own.

For Visitors to Your Farm or Horse

- It is best to have only one way into your farm. Mark this as the main entrance.

- Park away from the horses. Doing that will help keep disease-carrying organisms from being tracked from car floors or tires to your horses.

- If the farrier or veterinarian needs to park closer, be sure their tires and shoes have been disinfected.

- Ask all visitors to wear clean clothes and shoes. Give visitors plastic shoe covers, or brush dirt off their shoes and spray them with disinfectant.

- If you have many visitors, such as at a farm tour or open house, make a footbath for them to walk through.

Bringing Horses Back From a Show

- If one horse has been shown, all your horses need to be vaccinated. Horses that show can bring home germs. Discuss what vaccinations the horses need, and how often, with your veterinarian.

- If possible, keep horses which were off the farm isolated for at least 2 weeks. Make sure there is no nose-to-nose contact.

Bringing in New Horses

This is the most likely way for infectious diseases to come in.

- Keep every new horse isolated for 30 days. Don’t use pitchforks, grooming tools, or feed and water buckets on any horse but the new one. Mark these with red tape, or use red brushes, etc., only for the isolation area.

- Work with the isolated horse last each day. Alternatively, wear boots and coveralls when working with the isolated horse and remove them before working or going near other horses. You can keep these in a plastic-covered tub near the horse.

- Always wash your hands and blow your nose after working with the new horse. You could carry germs to your other horses in your nose.

Using Disinfectants

How To Disinfect

Surfaces must be clean for disinfectants to work. Brush off loose dirt and manure. If possible, wash the item with detergent first (laundry or dish soap works well) and then use a disinfectant. Most grooming tools can be dipped in disinfectant. Tack can be wiped with a disinfectant wipe or a disinfectant-dampened cloth. Shoes can be brushed or scrubbed off and then sprayed with disinfectant.

Examples of Disinfectants

Household Bleach—Mix \( \frac{3}{4} \) cup of bleach per gallon of water. If you don’t have a measuring cup handy, you can mix 1 part bleach to 10 parts water. This formula works for shoes, grooming equipment, buckets, shovels, and pitchforks. When you use bleach, make sure all dirt and manure have been cleaned off first.

Spray Disinfectant—Be sure the label says it kills bacteria and viruses. Sprays can work well on shoes, grooming equipment, and tack. Try to remove all manure and dirt before spraying.

Waterless Hand Sanitizers—They come in gels or hand wipes. These are good for use at a show or after visiting other horses. Be sure to work the cleaner all through your fingers and under the nails.
Other Disinfectants—Always mix and use according to the label. Two examples are One Stroke Environ® (available from Steris Corporation) and Tek-trol® (from Bio-Tek Industries). These both work well even if there is a little manure or dirt left on the surface. These are good choices for disinfecting trailers and car tires, and they also work well in footbaths.

Note: Trade names used in this publication do not constitute an endorsement, guarantee, or warranty of these products. USDA bears no responsibility resulting from the use of the described products. These procedures are not guaranteed to prevent highly contagious diseases from affecting your horses; however, they will reduce the risks.

Making an Easy Footbath
You will need:
1. A low plastic pan or bin, wide enough to fit an adult’s foot, shallow enough to step into easily
2. A plastic doormat (the “fake grass” mats work well)
3. A disinfectant that works when manure or dirt is present, such as Tek-trol or One Stroke Environ
4. Water
Mix the disinfectant with water following label instructions. Put the doormat in the plastic pan. Add disinfectant so that the bottom of the “grass” is wet. Ask visitors to walk through the footbath, wiping their feet on the mat. The “grass” scrubs their shoes a bit as they wipe them, and applies the disinfectant. When the liquid starts to get dirty, empty it and put in new disinfectant.
You Are the Best Protection Your Horses Have

Protect Your Barn and Horses from Disease
http://www.extension.org/pages/32823/protect-your-barn-and-horses-from-disease

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5. Winter Forage Conference Set – NC Forage & Grasslands Council - January 25th – Guilford Ag Center
The North Carolina Forage & Grassland Council in Conjunction with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will be hosting a series of winter conferences with one to be held January 25th from 12:30 -7:00pm in Greensboro at the Guilford County Agricultural Center located at 3309 Burlington Road. Ray Archuleta, a Natural Resources Conservation Service Agronomist will be this year’s speaker. He will be discussing healthy Soils Reduce Chemical Inputs on Grazing & Cropping Systems and we will also be featuring a local Producer, as well as a Local Producer Panel discussing Forages & Forage Management Experiences or Dealing with High Input Costs. This producer panel is always an audience favorite.
The cost is $15 for NC Forage and Grassland Council members, $25 for non-members & $10 for Students. For more information, give me a call at 342-8235.

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6. Carolina Equine Hospital is hosting the Winter Horse Health Seminar on February 4, 2012 at Northern Elementary School. Registration starts at 8:30am and the program is from 9am to noon. There will be free breakfast, exhibits, door prizes and great information! Speakers and topics are: Dr. Julie Settlage from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine on the Advances in Lameness Management. Also speaking is Dr. Mark Crisman from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine on Tick Borne Diseases and Emerging Diseases of the horse. Please RSVP by calling 349-4080.
We hope that lots of the horse community can join us that day! This is a great opportunity for youth and volunteers to gain some horse knowledge from the experts!
7. Bryan Park Workday

The next workday at Bryan Park will be Saturday, January 21 at 1:00 PM, weather permitting. If there is anything falling from the sky, or white stuff underfoot, we won’t go. Maybe switching to Saturday will let some people come who haven’t been able to get out on Sundays.

The good news is that they have been able to start with the excavator. The bad news is we’ve only cleared about 60% of the trails! More good news is that there is an Eagle Scout candidate who has been in touch with Roger & Alex about building bridges and some infrastructure for his Eagle Scout project. This is really starting to shape up.

They hope to see you there, with loppers and gloves and hand saws.

Focusing on getting lightness in response and calmness in behavior while building a relationship built on trust and understanding.
Friday evening overview/demo - 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Saturday and Sunday Clinic - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Clinic Participants - $300 for weekend
Auditors welcome - Friday Free. $15/Day or $20/Weekend

Fiore Farms 7600 Millbrook Road, Summerfield, NC 27358
www.CoolerHorsemanship.com, kate@coolerhorsemanship.com, 843-304-3407 for more information or to sign up.

9. The Tradition Will Continue: Southern National Draft Horse Pull

Southern National Draft Horse Pull has been the grand finale of The Southern Farm Show for nearly thirty years. When the producers of the farm show announced they would not be hosting the draft horse pull this year Rob Hall and Calvin Davis went to
work to make sure the tradition of the Southern National Draft Horse Pull will go on as scheduled for Friday, February 3, 2012.

Calvin Davis brings to the event many years of experience in the equine community. Rob Hall is a media and marketing professional. He has produced many events, including bluegrass festivals and horse shows. Both are draft horse owners. Top contenders from all over the country will be invited to compete. Spectators will also be treated to a coon mule jumping contest and the Double Bar L Shooters of North Carolina will demonstrate the sport of cowboy mounted shooting.

Draft horse pulling is a contest that requires brute strength and stamina. It traces back to the earliest times of domesticated workhorses when farmers challenged one another for whose horse could pull the heaviest load. One thing led to another, other farmers got in on the action, and rules were devised. The rest is history.

To compete, draft horses must be in top condition. They are worked daily and great care is paid to their nutrition. Proper fitting of the horse’s equipment is important. Harnesses need constant adjusting since the horse’s weight and muscle tone change with the conditioning.

Gates open at 5PM, show begins at 6PM. Tickets are $10 per person. You can save two dollars if you buy tickets for the pull at the Southern Farm Show on the NC State Fairgrounds Wednesday, February 1st through Friday, February 3rd. For more information contact Calvin Davis 919-732-7542 (H) or Rob Hall 336-599-4039 (H) 336-503-7183 (cell).

Fans can find out more on Facebook at www.facebook.com/southerndrafthorsepull or print out a flyer at www.southerndrafthorsepull.com

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10. Small Poultry Flock All Day Seminar January 19, 2012
Harnett County, 126 Alexander Drive, Lillington, NC27546-1089 (910) 893-7530 Phone
Email- http://harnett.ces.ncsu.edu
9:30 am-Registration- $10.00 Due at Door- Please make checks out to Cooperative Extension Service.
10:15 am-Forage Species, Management- Dan Campeau, NCSU
11:00 am- Alternative Poultry Species- Jeannette Beranger, ALBC
12 Noon- Lunch
1:00 pm- Multi Species farming systems- Steve Moize
11. Rockingham County N.C. Cooperative Extension - Shiitake Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshops

When: Choose either daytime or evening workshop

Workshop 1 Thursday, February 23rd at 10:00 AM

OR

Workshop 2 Thursday, February 23rd at 6:00PM

Where: Rockingham County Senior High School Horticulture Classroom

Pre-Registration and payment REQUIRED! Class sizes limited.

There is a $20 fee for oak logs, spawn and wax. Participants will each take home one inoculated log.

Call Kathryn Holmes to register or for more information at (336) 342-8230.

12. 2012 Conservation Stewardship Program Sign-Up

USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced that the fiscal year (FY) 2012 ranking period cutoff for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) has been extended to January 27, 2012.

Interested farmers and ranchers have until Friday, January 27, 2012, to complete the initial application form to compete for a spot in the 2012 enrollment class for the program.

To sign up, producers should visit their NRCS local service center.

* Continuous Sign-Up, But if You Miss the Cut-Off You Wait a Full Year – While CSP is a continuous sign-up program and producers can apply to enroll at any time of the year, NRCS applies a cut-off date for applications to be considered during a particular fiscal year. Once the cut-off date is past, producers may continue to apply for the program, but they will not be considered for entry until the spring of the following year, in this case spring of 2013, so if you want to enroll in 2012 you must get an application filed by January 27.

Process and Timeline

The application form, available at local NRCS offices, is a fairly short and simple one. Producers will also need to fill out the NRCS-CPA-1200 form. It is the same short generic two page form that is used for all the NRCS conservation programs offering financial assistance to farmers and ranchers.

Prior to submitting the CSP application (or an application for any other USDA conservation assistance program) you must have a farm record number established with the Farm Service Agency. If you do not currently have one, go to FSA first to establish your farm record.

All producers who have submitted their completed short conservation program application form by January 27 will then have until early to mid March 2012 to sit down with their local NRCS staff person and fill out the CSP Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT) which will be used to determine program eligibility, environmental benefits ranking, and CSP payment amounts. The CMT session will generally last an hour or more.

NRCS currently expects to complete the ranking process by sometime in March. Farmers and ranchers with the highest environmental benefits scores on the CMT will be chosen for enrollment. NRCS will then schedule on-farm verification
visits and develop a CSP plan and contract for each enrollee. The agency currently expects that process to last through mid to late April. The first annual payments for five-year contracts awarded in this round will be made on or after October 1, 2012 and then every October 1 thereafter.

For detailed background information on CSP, visit the NSAC webpage at http://sustainableagriculture.net/blog/212-csp-ranking-cutoff/

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13. New Service-NC Choices Livestock and Meat Classifieds list-serve!

NC Choices has received numerous requests for an easy, online method for folks involved in the local meat industry to share wanted/sell/trade goods and services related to their businesses. To help meet this need, NC Choices has created the "NC Choices Classifieds list-serve" as a simple way for farmers, processors and other industry professionals to share available goods and services. If this list gains high traffic volume and is useful to a large number of people, we may consider committing more resources to a fully featured classifieds section on a website.

The usefulness of this list will be determined by those who use it. Please carefully read below before subscribing and posting goods or services.

Please continue to use the "NC Choices News" list-serve for posting events, workshops, discussion, etc. There are currently over 950 subscribers to the "News" list. To subscribe to the NC Choices News email list click here www.ncchoices.com/mailinglist

To SUBSCRIBE to the NC Choices Classifieds list-serve, send a request to casey@ncchoices.com with the subject line "subscribe classifieds" To POST to the NC Choices Classifieds list-serve, send your composed message to "ncchoicesclassifieds@lists.ncsu.edu"

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14. HAY DIRECTORY - A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at 1-800-666-3625 or 342-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale. MANAGE YOUR PASTURES!

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15. Take A Load Off –
I need your clean Jokes, so please send em to me! -

Good sermon
A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to
His Sunday sermon. Four worms were placed into four separate jars.

The first worm was put into a jar of alcohol.

The second worm was put into a jar of cigarette smoke.

The third worm was put into a jar of chocolate syrup.

The fourth worm was put into a jar of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the Sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol - Dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke - Dead.

Third worm in chocolate syrup - Dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil - Alive.

So the Minister asked the congregation - What can you learn from this demonstration?

A little old woman in the back quickly raised her hand and said, "As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!"

Don’t you just love little old ladies????

Funny how we can draw different conclusions from the same situation or conditions.
I always want to know what you think of the Weekly Pile, good or bad, especially if it has had ANY IMPACT on you. Let me hear from you!

*****I NEED YOUR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES In FUTURE Newsletters!*****
I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

*Please remember our Troops who are serving our Country (and there families) those who have come home with wounds and the families that paid the ultimate sacrifice. We owe everything to those who are and have served!

Thank You!
I hope that you all have a Great Safe Weekend & Holiday!
Ben

North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability. Moreover, North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of black students. North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University regards discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to be inconsistent with its goal of providing a welcoming environment in which all its students, faculty, and staff may learn and work up to their full potential. The Universities values the benefits of cultural diversity and pluralism in the academic community and welcomes all men and women of good will without regard to sexual orientation.

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