

## **Weekly Pile for Week of October 16 2011**

Hey Everybody, (Horse E-mailers),

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of October 16, 2011, 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 a like.
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send in to me.

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was a 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. Toxic Plants**
- 2. Cost Saving Tips for Equine Operations**
- 3. Bacterial Diseases of the Horse**
- 4. You Asked**
- 5. Notes from Molly – The Intern**
- 6. Locally Raised Meats, Eggs or Produce**
- 7. 30 Years of Building A Farm - October 21, 6 pm**
- 8. Horse Worms: Learning to Live With Them - FREE Webinar, October 25 - 8:00 p.m.**

**9. Flintrock Farm Events**

**10. Equine Extravaganza - November 4-6 - Doswell VA**

**11. Fun Show and Tack Sale - November 5, Circle S Stables**

**12. Cooler Horsemanship Activities**

**13. Annual Extension Volunteer Fall Fair - November 19<sup>th</sup> – Ag Center**

**14. December 3-4 Holiday Classic Open Horse Show**

**15. Cheese Making 101**

**16. HAY DIRECTORY**

**17. Take A Load Off**

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**1. Toxic Plants**

**This past week there has been an increase in calls & questions about toxic plants.**

**Toxic weeds are typically in the pastures all the time and livestock normally leave them alone. The concern is that such plants may be the only thing green still standing especially during drought situations, making them more desirable to grazing animals. In many cases the weeds are unpalatable and will not be grazed unless horses are starving or desirable forages are not available. The notable exceptions are black cherry and red maple leaves. These leaves are toxic in even small amounts. Horse will sometimes eat the wilted leaves from a blown down black cherry and a few fallen red maple leaves can easily be picked up when grazing. During periods of extended drought, horses may consume less palatable plants and even browse.**

**Consuming toxic plants in amounts equal to 5%-10% of the horses body weight over a couple of weeks or months is sufficient to poison a horse. Horses should be maintained in areas where they will not have access to wilting leaves or trees toxic to horses, such as black walnut and red maple. Weeds should be eliminated from pasture areas through a combination of timely mowing, herbicide application, and controlled grazing.**

**Learning all the toxic plants is not the point. Your animals are living in a dangerous environment and the best way to protect them from toxic plants is to develop and utilize a comprehensive weed control program. Such a program will involve both mowing and herbicides. Depending on mowing alone will result in a prevalence of perennial weeds while reliance on herbicides alone will develop an annual weed problem. A dual approach is best.**

Some of the listed plants may surprise you and you will probably despair of ever learning them all. Many of the listed toxic plants may pose little threat to horses. Most of them are unpalatable, and horses who are grazing & filling up on quality forage aren't likely to spend a lot of time grazing on bitter leaves. Something else that is in the horses favor is their size--a 1,000-pound animal has to consume significantly higher quantities of most toxins than smaller animals to see/feel the symptoms. So, for the most part, if your pastures are in good shape & your horses are healthy you have a lot less to worry about. However, some plants are cause for concern either because even a curious bite can cause serious problems or because repeated eating over time (weeks or months) can build up & lead to problems.

#### Poisonous Plants of North Carolina

[http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/poison/indcoa\\_e.htm](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/poison/indcoa_e.htm)

#### Guide to Poisonous Plants

[http://southcampus.colostate.edu/poisonous\\_plants/index.cfm?countno=NO](http://southcampus.colostate.edu/poisonous_plants/index.cfm?countno=NO)

#### Plants toxic to horses can be found

at <http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/plants/> Poisonous Plants Informational Database.

#### Plants & Weeds Toxic to Horses

<http://polk.ces.ncsu.edu/content/PlantsWeedsToxictoHorses&source=caldwell>

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## 2. Cost Saving Tips for Equine Operations

Chris Mortensen, PhD, Clemson University, Extension Horse Specialist

Under the current economic climate, horse owners are feeling the cost burden of owning horses more than ever. Times are tough for horse owners, however, if owners are careful and frugal, there are many ways to reduce operation costs.

### Feeding Based on Body Condition

A large portion of operating expenses is feeding costs. Only housing tends to cost more. There are many tips that can help reduce costs; however, owners need to be cautious as a proper balanced diet is critical to your animal's health. The first tip that can help in reducing feed cost is to feed your horse based on their weight and current body condition score (BCS). The ideal body condition for a horse is 5.0 - 5.5 on a scale of 1 (emaciated) to 9 (obese) and horses need 2.0 – 3.0% of their body weight (BW) per day in feed. How much of that is forage (hay) and how much of that is concentrate (grain) depends on horse workload. For example, horses that are ridden less frequently or not at all can be sustained on good quality hay. Horses that are ridden frequently, but not in intense competition, can be maintained on 2.0% BW hay and 0.5%-1.0% concentrate of BW per day. For equine athletes that compete and train

frequently (i.e. polo, racing, endurance riding) can require up to 1.5% hay and 1.5% concentrate of BW per day. Each horse differs metabolically, much like people, and the best gauge on how well your horse is being fed is based on body condition. Many resources can be found on how to body condition score your horse. It is important to remember that keeping your horse too lean (4 or less BCS) or too fat (7 or greater BCS) can be dangerous to your animal's health and can result in expensive veterinarian bills.

#### **Adding Fat to a Horse's Diet**

Another tip to maintain weight on a horse is to substitute fat for more expensive concentrate. A shift has taken place within feeding practices based on current equine nutrition research. Rather than feeding additional concentrate, leading nutritionists are recommending to incorporate fat. The fat can be in the form of oil, i.e. vegetable oil, soy oil, flaxseed oil. This can be an excellent way to safely add body condition to horses, up to 1.0% BW per day in fat can be fed. An important reminder is, change a horse's diet slowly over a 2-3 week period. When changing a diet, whether it is changing type of hay, or feeding a new concentrate, the first week feed 75% old diet 25% new diet, week two 50% old diet 50% new diet, and third week 25% old diet and 75% new diet. Additionally, horses should be fed at minimum 2x per day

#### **Estimating Body Weight**

One of the best ways to estimate a horse's body weight is using a simple weight tape, and using the simple formula below. First, measure body circumference by measuring all around the horse using the highest point of the withers. Second, measure body length by starting at the point of the shoulder down the side of the horse to the point of the buttocks. Use the equation: heart girth x heart girth x body length then divided by 330, for a good estimate on live horse weights

#### **Hay Handling**

Other nutrition tips include feeding hay in a feeder, or using round bales (tend to be more economical) in a feeding ring, to reduce waste.

#### **Supplement Usage**

Critically evaluate the need for expensive supplements as many of the horses daily required nutrients can be met with a balanced diet. If feeding supplements, the best recommended addition to a diet would be a vitamin/mineral mix. However, equine athletes in extreme competition may require additional nutrients and in those cases consult with your veterinarian or feed nutrition consultant.

Other cost saving tips includes:

- Store hay properly to reduce waste, i.e. up on pallets and covered or indoors
- Utilizing more pasture feeding vs. feeding hay
- Keep horse in paddocks or on pasture to reduce shavings use/cost
- Buy hay and bedding in bulk (with neighbors/friends)

- Reducing travel or showing
- Repair or reuse old tack/equipment, shop for best prices or sell old tack/equipment
- Breed fewer horses
- Practice preventive horse care with proper feeding, vaccinations, and deworming which can prevent expensive vet bills
- Change boarding from stall to pasture, discuss options with stable owners

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### 3. Bacterial Diseases of the Horse

Craig Wood, University of Kentucky

#### Strangles

Strangles is a highly contagious upper respiratory infection in horses. The cause has been identified as a bacteria. The disease has a low mortality rate, yet the economic ramifications due to long recovery periods can be great. The disease is contracted through environmental contamination, nasal discharge, or direct contact with infected animals.

#### Clinical Signs

1. high fever of 103 to 106 F
2. loss of appetite
3. a moist cough
4. clear nasal discharge that becomes yellow
5. difficulty in breathing and swallowing (as if strangling, hence the name)
6. swelling of submandibular lymph nodes that rupture.

This upper respiratory inflammation then spreads to the submandibular lymph nodes (below the jaw), which eventually abscess. Symptoms can range from minor to major. The most severe form of strangles involves inflammation of all lymph nodes

**Treatment** - Treatment consists of supportive care, which involves keeping the animal warm and dry, isolating it from other animals, and offering it soft foods. Hot packing of the abscesses speeds up formation of pus. The antibiotic of choice is penicillin if used before abscess development. Penicillin used after abscess formation slows recovery. Strangles is usually not fatal.

**Prevention** - There is a vaccination available for strangles, yet efficacy is low and the duration is short. The best prevention is to isolate new animals, optimally for a month. Any horses with upper respiratory signs should be avoided and/or watched closely for further problems.

#### Botulism

Botulism in horses is rare, but is usually fatal. It is caused by toxins produced by the bacteria known scientifically as *Clostridium botulinum*. The botulism toxins act on the

peripheral nervous system by preventing transmission of the nervous impulses. These toxins are found in the soil and in decaying plant or animal matter. Adult horses and foals usually less than 8 months old can be affected.

### **Clinical Signs**

#### **Foals**

- 1. impaired suckling**
- 2. inability to swallow**
- 3. decreased eyelid and tail tone and dilated pupils**
- 4. respiratory paralysis, which causes death.**

#### **Adults**

- 1. many of the same signs seen in foals**
- 2. eventual muscle weakness, tremors, and collapse**
- 3. respiratory paralysis, which causes death.**

**Treatment -** If botulism is caught early, there is a polyvalent equine antitoxin (an antibody produced in response to a toxin from the bacteria) that is active against several types of the organism. This antitoxin has improved the chances of survival in horses.

**Prevention -** A vaccine is available for use and is recommended only for endemic areas.

### **Tetanus**

Tetanus, also known as lockjaw, is an extremely serious disease of the central nervous system that has a high mortality rate in horses. The bacteria causing tetanus is found worldwide, and therefore, every unvaccinated horse is a potential victim.

The disease is caused by a toxin released by the bacteria *Clostridium tetani*. This bacteria is normally found in the intestinal tract of horses and is passed in the feces. The spores are always present in the soil in any horse facility. The bacteria is anaerobic, meaning that it multiplies in areas where oxygen is not present. Deep puncture wounds contaminated with dirt are ideal locations for tetanus to flourish.

Tetanus may lie dormant in the animal for as long as six months. Therefore, the onset of signs may be months after the original injury.

### **Clinical Signs**

- 1. inability to open mouth to eat and drink**
- 2. eyes wide open and ears rigid**
- 3. stiffness and rigidity of the entire body**
- 4. extreme sensitivity to sounds, sights, and touch**

**5. third eyelid closes uncontrollably**

(One way to distinguish tetanus from other neurological diseases is to clap your hands and watch the third eyelid. It will close uncontrollably.)

**6. convulsions and death in 75 to 80 percent of cases.**

If the horse makes it through the first week, chances of recovery are good, but full recovery may take many months.

**Treatment - Treatment is mainly supportive. The horse should be kept in a dark, quiet place with plenty of padding to prevent injury. Adequate nourishment and fluid intake must be monitored. Sedatives and muscle relaxers should be administered along with the tetanus antitoxin.**

**Prevention - Vaccination with tetanus toxoid is a highly effective preventive. It is given in two doses four to eight weeks apart, followed by a booster every year thereafter. Broodmares should be vaccinated four to eight weeks prior to foaling to ensure passive immunity for the foal. The foal may then receive its first injection at 3 months of age because maternal immunity will not interfere with the vaccine.**

If an unvaccinated horse is wounded, it should be given the tetanus antitoxin for immediate protection. However, this protection is short-lived, so the horse should be given the toxoid vaccine at the same time and a booster four weeks later.

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**4. You Asked: Do horses get Lyme disease? I am constantly pulling both deer and dog ticks off of my pastured horses. Frequently, there is a swelling at the site where the tick was. However, my horses have no health problems. Should I be concerned?**

Like humans and general house pets, horses can get Lyme disease from deer ticks. The bacterium which causes Lyme disease, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, gets transferred to the animal through a bite usually in the spring and early fall periods. One of the most obvious symptoms of Lyme disease is a bulls-eye rash that surrounds the bite area, which can appear between 3 and 30 days after the tick bite. Some other symptoms have included fever, depression or other behavioral changes such as increased irritability, swollen legs, lameness, skin lesions, and stiffness. However, later stage Lyme disease can include more serious symptoms such as arthritis and neurological as well as cardiac abnormalities. Sometimes the horses might not even develop signs of Lyme disease but still have it.

Diagnosing Lyme disease in horses is difficult because a lot of the symptoms associated with Lyme disease can also occur from other problems, or from lameness. Even if blood test results come up positive for Lyme, it may only mean that the horse

has been exposed to the bacterium over the years but its symptoms are not due to Lyme at the present time.

Antibiotics such as tetracycline can be given successfully via an intravenous line. This treatment can help alleviate symptoms after the first day. However, oral and intramuscular medications can also be used. All of these treatments may need to last for a few weeks, depending on how well the animal is responding to the medication. During the first few days of treatment, monitor your horse to make sure its symptoms do not turn into true laminitis.

There are some steps you can take to help prevent Lyme disease. Use a tick repellent on your horse, and keep pasture grasses low. Regularly groom your horse during peak tick seasons, and immediately remove any ticks you find. Ticks need to attach and feed for 12-24 hours before they can transmit the bacteria.

There is no USDA approved Lyme vaccine for horses, however, there is testing on a vaccine in progress. Some people are using the canine vaccine in horses, however, it is not recommended without consulting with an equine veterinarian. Some of the canine vaccine side effects could also be problematic in horses.

This answer was prepared with the help of Erin Rockhill, Animal Science Research Student at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University.

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## 5. Notes from Molly – The Intern

### Molly Stanfield

#### How to Choose a Farrier

Choosing a farrier for your horse may be the most important thing you ever do. Your farrier has more to do with your horse's day-to-day comfort and soundness—second only to you, the owner. So, you want to choose carefully. Most of us have heard the old axiom, "No foot, no horse." But despite how much biotin we supplement into the animal's feed, or how religious we are about applying the hoof dressings, if the foot is not balanced and trimmed properly for the individual horse, those things won't matter. This is why a knowledgeable farrier is so essential to your horse's performance and comfort. Not enough of us, though, give this professional their due respect.

First, you should determine if the farrier is certified. While there are many excellent farriers who are not certified, you can be sure that a farrier who has taken tests and passed a performance evaluation takes his craft seriously and is interested in staying up to date. The CJF (Certified Journeyman Farrier), awarded by the American Farriers Association, is the highest certification recognized internationally and available in the

U.S. There are other certifications. Visit the American Farriers Association website <http://www.americanfarriers.org> for connections to certified farriers in your area. Almost every farrier who is certified will display his certification publicly and proudly.

When it comes to the price of shoeing your horse the cheaper route is not always the best way to go. While farrier charges vary quite a bit according to location, a little comparison shopping should tell you what the usual and normal charges for good work in your area are. A bad shoeing or trimming job can cost you weeks of training, hours of riding, and even big vet bills. A farrier who spends money on new equipment, continuing education, a computer, and a cell phone will not be the cheapest, but he/she may be a really good investment.

One important thing to consider is whether the farrier is dependable and reliable. A farrier who doesn't return calls, or doesn't call you when he's late or can't be there, isn't much use to you when your horse is overdue for shoeing and you've taken the afternoon off. A farrier who doesn't act like he wants your business probably doesn't want your business.

Your farrier should also be familiar with the shoeing requirements and rules for the sport in which you participate so that the farrier is familiar with the needs of the horse. Some sample example questions you could ask are: "Do you make sliding plates?" "Do you drill and tap for cross country studs?" "Are you familiar with shoeing gaited horses?". This is especially true for any therapeutic shoeing your horse needs. Don't wait until your appointment for shoeing to find out whether your new farrier knows how to apply an eggbar correctly.

Lastly, your best source for information on farriers, whether you are new to the area or just ready for a change, is your veterinarian--followed closely by people in your sport who are consistently competitive, with sound horses. Most people just love to be asked for advice. Ask a lot of them. If one or two names come up again and again, that's a good sign.

As a client, it is important to keep in mind that if your farrier practices his profession full time, he will probably have a busy schedule. Do not expect to call and receive an appointment the next day. Monitor the growth of your horse's hooves and try to call a week or two before a trim or shoeing becomes necessary. The farrier will appreciate this consideration, since it allows him to book clients together in a given area and prepare an organized schedule. Remember, too, that he/she is working all day with many horses. Try to be considerate and avoid asking him to work all night as well. Although their days are rarely nine to five, or Monday through Friday, we should try to book during the farrier's regular work day. This means refraining from asking the farrier to schedule late evenings or at other times when most people are not working. If you have an emergency, don't hesitate to contact your farrier, but be prepared to pay as you would an emergency vet call.

Since you have gone to the trouble to find a reliable professional, it is important to listen to what they have to say. When your farrier makes suggestions regarding hoof care, consider them carefully. As much as you may know about horses, your farrier sees hundreds of horses weekly and has the chance to examine many more animals and observe more conditions than the average horse owner ever will. Along with their education, this experience is invaluable when evaluating what is best for your horse. Trust what he suggests and give his decision time to work. More often than not, you will be pleased with your horse's performance if you take advantage of your farrier's expertise.

Sources: <http://www.fairhillforge.com/choosefarrier.html>

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### 6. Locally Raised Meats, Eggs or Produce

Are you interested in Buying or Selling locally produced Meats, Eggs or Produce? If so you need to check out the Piedmont Local Foods at <http://www.farmersfreshmarket.org/rockingham/> This is a GREAT marketing option if you are already marketing meats, or if you are looking at direct marketing the meat you produce. Piedmont Local Food brings fresh, local food to the tables of restaurants and buying clubs throughout the Piedmont Triad area of North Carolina.

Piedmont Local Food is a virtual farmers market linking growers to restaurant chefs, as well as individuals through buying clubs. Once orders are placed online, local growers process them, and we deliver them - picked and shipped within 24 hours! Supporting Piedmont Local Food supports local farmers and tantalizes your taste buds!

The goal of the Piedmont Local Food program is to provide the freshest and most flavorful local produce (Meats & Eggs) in a convenient and sustainable manner. Piedmont Local Food serves members in Rockingham, Stokes, Guilford, Caswell, Forsyth & Surry Counties.

**Bens Note:** I think this is a Great Marketing tool to be considered for anyone that wants to sell Meat or Eggs off the farm, so check it out!

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7. Rockingham County Cooperative Extension  
Alex Hitt – 30 Years of Building A Farm  
Friday October 21, 6 pm

Rockingham County Agricultural Center  
525 Hwy 65  
Reidsville, NC 27326

Come learn about the different decisions this successful sustainable horticulture grower has made while building his farm. Farms do not develop overnight there are many decisions to be made from what crops to grow, production methods and marketing strategies! Successful farming requires continuous changing and re-evaluating.

Alex Hitt from Peregrine Farm in Graham, NC will be the guest speaker! He is very knowledgeable about using diverse farming systems.

Contact Kathryn Holmes, Horticulture Agent [336-342-8230](tel:336-342-8230) for more information or to register.

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## **8. Horse Worms: Learning to Live With Them FREE Webinar Tuesday, October 25 - 8:00 p.m. EDT**

**Are you concerned about worms in your horses? If you're not, you should be! Researchers report that decades of frequent deworming of all horses without regard for season or individual horses' needs has put us on a destructive path, with worms becoming increasingly resistant to deworming drugs and no quick or easy solutions in sight.**

**Learn why we need to learn to live with the worms to a degree, and how to protect your horses while minimizing dewormer resistance. Be part of a free webinar on parasite control in horses on October 25, 8-9 p.m. EDT, brought to you by Merck Animal Health In this webinar, you'll learn: Why we can't and shouldn't kill all the worms (much as we might like to!) How to find out if your current deworming program is working How you can save money on dewormers while reducing your contribution to dewormer resistance Farm management practices you can use to improve your parasite control.**

**Speakers: Martin Nielsen, DVM, PhD, assistant professor at the University of Kentucky's Gluck Equine Research Center; Ray Kaplan, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ECPC, ACVM, professor of parasitology at the University of Georgia; Wendy Vaala, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM, Senior Equine Technical Services Specialist at Merck Animal Health.**

**What's a webinar? It's a FREE online video seminar given by an expert on a specific topic. During the webinar event, you may ask questions and have**

them answered by the expert. Archived webinars are available on demand and include the Q&A transcripts.

Webinars are available to registered users of TheHorse.com and as a registered user, you are eligible to receive special offers and discounts from The Horse, our affiliates, and partners. Join TheHorse.com for free! Register at <http://www.thehorse.com/Videos/Webinars.aspx>

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### 9. Flintrock Farm Events

- Flintrock 4-H will be holding an Open Horse Show at Flintrock Farm, Rt. 158, Reidsville, on Saturday October 22nd at 9:00am Flintrock Farm Open Show Series

- Flintrock Farm Open Show Series - Final show October 29<sup>th</sup> - For more information. Go to [www.flintrockfarm.com](http://www.flintrockfarm.com) and click on calendar to see class list.

- Flintrock Farm Open Fun Show and Fundraiser on Saturday, November 5th. Fun for the entire family including non-horse classes for the humans! Horse classes include English/Western pleasure and equitation, jumping, trail, halter, therapeutic riding and fun classes. Only \$10 per class or \$60 all day (horse/rider combo). Great concessions on site. Mr. Ken Davis, from Lynchburg VA, will be judging. For more information please go to [www.flintrockfarm.com](http://www.flintrockfarm.com). All proceeds go to support HorseFriends, a non-profit therapeutic riding program that operates at Flintrock Farm.

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### 10. Equine Extravaganza!

November 4-6, 2011

The Meadow Event Park, Doswell VA

The Mid-Atlantic's Biggest Horse Happening!

In addition to the talented and amazing line-up of trainers and exciting clinics and demonstrations you've come to expect from Equine Extravaganza, we're cooking up more ways to make our event even more FUN, FESTIVE, and FLAVORFUL!

Start with a line up of 3 exceptional trainers, Brock Griffith, Chase Dodd & Tommy Garland 3 young unstarted horses, 3 days of training, and a final obstacle course challenge..... it all adds up to electrifying FUN in the Celebrity Trainer Challenge!

America's Most Trusted Horseman, John Lyons, returns to his huge Mid-Atlantic fan base at Equine Extravaganza! John Lyons' Equine Extravaganza clinics are always packed, as eager fans fill the stands to watch John work his magic on even the most challenging horse. John's extraordinary ability to inspire, teach others, and lead has changed the horse industry. His teaching methods have influenced every breed at

every level of performance. He is the most sought after trainer, clinician, teacher and horseman in the industry today. Don't miss John's clinics and demonstrations throughout the weekend!

Dressage icon Jane Savoie, a favorite of Equine Extravaganza dressage enthusiasts, returns by popular demand! Jane Savoie is one of the most recognized names in dressage, and for a good reason. Her accomplishments and the breadth of her influence are impressive. She has been a member of the United States Equestrian Team and has competed for the US in Canada, Holland, Belgium, France and Germany. She was the reserve rider for the Bronze medal winning Olympic dressage team in Barcelona, Spain. She has been long-listed by the USET with several horses and has won nine Horse of the Year awards and three National Freestyle Championships.

In addition you'll find more breeds, more kids fun, and more discipline demos including Cowboy Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Gaited Horse Clinics, Ranch Horse Versatility, Dog Obedience, Equine and Canine Massage.

Don't miss out on the biggest horse happenin' in the Mid-Atlantic. For more information go to: <http://www.equineextravaganza.com/>

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### 11. Fun Show and Tack Sale

November 5, Circle S Stables, Wagoner Rd, Gibsonville, NC; starts at 9 am. Only \$5/class, \$30 all day ride per horse/rider or \$50 per family all day ride. NO show clothes or show tack required. Classes for all levels of riders, including trail, English/Western, hunter hack, games. Tack sale starts at 10 am, Western and English tack. Email [circleshorsestable@yahoo.com](mailto:circleshorsestable@yahoo.com) for more information, a class list or to consign tack or call [336-255-3475](tel:336-255-3475).

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### 12. Cooler Horsemanship Clinics and Events

November 12, 2011

Colt Starter Challenge 2011- Chatham, Virginia.

Tickets are \$15, and the challenge runs from 8 am to 4 pm.

Contact us or visit [www.sefha.net](http://www.sefha.net) for tickets

[www.CoolerHorsemanship.com](http://www.CoolerHorsemanship.com), [kate@coolerhorseanship.com](mailto:kate@coolerhorseanship.com), 843-304-3407

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### 13. Annual EXTENSION VOLUNTEER FALL FAIR

Rockingham County Extension Volunteer Fall Fair will be on Saturday, November 19th, in the Agricultural Building in Wentworth. Every year this annual

event provides holiday shoppers with a variety of quality hand crafted gifts and delicious baked goods.

A highlight of this year’s Fall Fair will be the drawing for a handmade quilt, wall hanging, and pillow to be given away at noon. You do not need to be present to win. Tickets are available from Cooperative Extension volunteers. All funds raised are used for community projects—including college scholarships.

Also featured is the second printing of the most recent Extension Volunteers Cookbook. The cookbook has favorite recipes from previously published Extension Cookbooks—plus many new heart-healthy recipes for today’s health conscious cooks. The cookbook sells for \$13.00, and proceeds from the sales sponsor scholarships for Rockingham County students attending colleges in North Carolina.

There are still a few tables available for the day for \$12.00. If you are an artist, crafter, or baker interested in selling at the Fall Fair, please contact Linda Hill to confirm availability (349-5741).

For more information, contact Brenda Sutton, 342-8230 [brenda\\_sutton@ncsu.edu](mailto:brenda_sutton@ncsu.edu)

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**14. December 3-4 Holiday Classic Open Horse Show**

Be sure to mark December 3-4, 2011 on your calendars for the Holiday Classic Open Horse Show in Raleigh. This show has something for everyone! You can enter the day of the show for an additional fee or you can postmark your pre registration by November 18 to avoid the \$10 late fee/horse. This show has amazing trophies and awards! There are lots of other things happening during this show such as a social on Friday night, vendors, give-a-ways, consignment shop and silent auction. All proceeds benefit the Equestrian Western Club at NCSU and the North Central District 4-H Horse Program. Be sure to check out the web site

at: <http://holidayclassicopenhorseshow.webs.com/>

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**15. Cheesemaking 101**

Cheese making one day courses . At this point they are (of course we have quarters for short term stays) but later we will offer more comprehensive cheese making classes that will require two days

Go to: [www.sleepygoatfarm.com](http://www.sleepygoatfarm.com)

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16. 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](tel: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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**17. Take A Load Off –**

**I need your clean Jokes, so please send em to me! -**

**Thanks for this send in!**

**One night at about 3am my wife was getting up from the toilet to return to bed when she heard a little noise. It was a suspiciously rodent like sound that seemed to be right in the bathroom with her.**

**She, of course, froze and listened attentively for any further sign of invaders. After a moment, satisfied that she was alone, she took a step for the door. Rodent scratchy sounds again! She froze, not breathing. Silence. Her heart beat fast as she once again tried to retreat from the bathroom.**

**This time the noise was accompanied by something touching the back of her leg! That was too much to bear. She literally flew the 8 feet to the bed, clearing the foot board by a couple feet, to land screaming by my side.**

**The culprit was right there in plain sight, a trail of toilet paper neatly marked the path from bed to the bathroom.**

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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!

Ben

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