

Do You Have a Horse Looking for a New Job?

The RTC provides equine-assisted activities and therapies to children, adults and veterans with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. Because of our commitment to our clients and the subsequent high standards for our therapy horses, The RTC typically is only able to approve and accept an average of 1 in 15 horses generously presented to us as a donation or a loan. Required criteria for your horse includes, but is not limited to:

- Must be physically and behaviorally sound with no injuries or vices
- Must be able to walk, trot and canter on the correct leads on the rail
- Calm, patient and friendly temperament with exceptional ground manners
- Ideally between the ages of 8-17 years old
- Training in a Western or English discipline preferred
- Has been ridden on average 2-3 times a week for the past six months
- Show ring experience is a plus

We DO NOT accept:

- Horses that are over the age of 20
- Horses with soundness issues or disease
- Stallions

If you feel that you have a potential candidate for therapy work, please fill out the following Horse Questionnaire and email it back to us at theridingtherapycenter@gmail.com

Give us a call at 361-578-8182 with any further questions.



INITIAL EQUINE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for considering your equine for our program. It is the policy of The RTC to accept loans or donations of equines from their owners for the purpose of our Equine Assisted Activities and Therapy Program. Equines accepted into the program must be mentally and physically healthy and sound, and they must be able to maintain a moderate work schedule. The RTC is not a sanctuary for retired equines, nor a rescue organization, but rather a place where a special category of equines comes to fill a special need. Therapy horses must be tolerant, forgiving and accepting of unbalanced and erratic riders, loud noises, side walkers on both sides of them, wheelchairs and walkers, and other unusual equipment and therapeutic devices. Therapy horses are ridden with leaders and independently, depending on the ability of the rider. Many riders are unskilled and inexperienced and have various forms of disabilities. Please consider whether your horse would succeed in this type of environment.

The RTC requires the Initial Equine Questionnaire be completed, a visit by our staff at the equine's present location, and a vet letter stating the horse is in acceptable health to be used in our program (not more than 45 days old) prior to accepting a horse for a 60-90 day trial period. Upon the evaluators' recommendation, the equine will be transported to The RTC by the owner for further evaluation. There are two components to the on-site evaluation: 15-30 days with staff only working with and riding the equine and 30-60 days in the program on the schedule. Once the equine is accepted into the program, donation or loan agreements will be drawn up. All equines on loan to The RTC must be available for a minimum of two years.

The owner is requested to transport the equine to The RTC. If, after the trial period, the equine is not considered appropriate for the program, the owner will be notified to pick up the equine. Acceptance of the equine for a trial period does not obligate The RTC to accept the equine into its program.

The RTC requests:

At the initial evaluation when the staff visits the equine, the owner is asked to demonstrate or have someone demonstrate, how the equine moves in hand and under saddle at a walk, trot and canter. The staff may also ride the equine and introduce it to a variety of objects used in therapy.

The equine must be recently trimmed (within the past 6 weeks) and show evidence of routine hoof care.

The equine must be able to load and travel properly in a horse trailer.

A copy of the equine's previous year's veterinary records (including vaccinations, teeth floating, and any other visits from the vet). Equine must be current on all shots and have a negative Coggins test.

The owner agrees to pay for any major medical costs (more than \$250.00) related to their equine during the trial period.

According to The RTC Board of Directors, veterinarian, and The RTC guidelines, The RTC cannot accept equines:

- With EIA
- That are blind in one or both eyes or suffer from recurrent uveitis
- Stallions

If you feel like your horse will respond and succeed in a therapeutic riding program and environment, please fill out this form and email it to theridingtherapytherapycenter@gmail.com



INITIAL EQUINE QUESTIONNAIRE

Owner Contact Information:

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact Phone: _____ Contact Email: _____

Equine Information:

Name: _____ AKA: _____

DOB: _____ Sex: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Breed: _____ Registration Number: _____

Color including Markings: _____

Date of last: Coggins: _____ VEWT _____ Flu/Rhino _____ West Nile _____ Rabies _____

Farrier: _____ Float: _____ Worming: _____

Current and past medical issues

Issue	Year	Comments
Founder		
Colic		
Navicular Disease		
Leg Injury		
Digestive Issues		
Surgery		
Teeth Issues		
EPM		
Injuries from previous accidents		
Ringbone		
Metabolic Disorder		
Hoof Disease		
Other		

If we have questions about this horse's health, may we contact your veterinarian? ___Yes ___No

Current veterinarian and contact information _____

Does this horse have any physical limitations? _____

Current supplements _____



Does this horse walk-trot-canter? _____

How long have you owned this horse? _____

Why are you looking for a new home for this horse?

Many of the horses at The RTC are currently on loan, meaning that while The RTC maintains all feeding, worming, vaccination, farrier, and reasonable minor veterinary care while the horse is being used by the facility, the owner maintains ownership and any major medical or lifesaving expenses. Other horses have been donated to The RTC and the owner relinquishes all rights and ownership of the horse. **Due to the limited amount of resources for retired horses, The RTC strongly encourages horse loans rather than donations.**

At this time, are you considering a full donation or loan?

Why do you think this horse is a good candidate for therapeutic riding?

What are the various disciplines that this horse has participated in? (Trail riding, showing English or Western, barrels, pleasure only, etc.)?

How often was it ridden while in your care? (i.e., two or three times a week or month, etc.)

When was this horse last ridden?

While in your care, has this horse lived with other horses in a pasture, or has it been kept in a stall?

What is this horses' behavior towards other horses? (ie dominant or low man on totem pole)

Will this horse tolerate being in a barn and stall for extended periods of time?

Is this horse stabled at your home or boarded elsewhere?

What, if any, bad habits does this horse have?



What is the health history of this horse?

Does this horse stand quietly for a farrier and veterinarian? If not, explain temperament.

Does this horse load in a trailer with little or no fuss?

On a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is an untrained horse and 10 is a completely trained/seasoned horse and can be ridden by a first time rider, how would you rate this horse? Please Explain

Would you feel comfortable putting an unskilled rider with disabilities on this horse?

Ground Work:

Our therapy horses are used extensively in hand. Has this horse been shown or trained in-hand? Please explain:

Has this horse had any Parelli (or similar) training or experience? If yes, please explain:

Has this horse had any desensitization training? If yes, please explain:

Can this horse be led from either side?

Can this horse be lunged on a lunge line?

Does this horse have round pen experience?

Can this horse be caught easily in a turnout area or pasture without anything enticing?

Does this horse get along with other horses?

Additional Information: