

March 18, 2020

Dear Riders, Parents, Visitors and Volunteers,

Hello, all of you and the horses have been on my mind. We are so personally connected here to the horses and to each other. I love our stables family. Caring for these beautiful creatures has been a labor of love for many years. Throughout the last 22 years the stables has endured many trials and tribulations. We have ALWAYS come out shining! We will make it through this time. The stables has become a happy place for so many people. We are an intelligent stables and have been right from the beginning. My sterilization techniques of surfaces, helmets and implementing handwashing program last summer that is known as the surgeons scrub, using Clorox to scrub water and grain buckets, and the daily removal of manure has kept all of us safe. I realize we are primarily an outdoor recreational sport. I realize we can maintain a distance of 15-20 feet away from one another. I realize with our set up and best practices ever the chances are very slim that we will obtain the virus here. TO BE EXTRA CAUTIOUS, the following immediately needs to be implemented to keep the horses and people safe. These dates are approximate and the list of new rules would apply when we return to horseback riding:

- 1.) We will close the farm today March 18 until May 1. By May 1st, we will reevaluate and send a message via email to everyone. If you are enrolled for program or have scheduled an March or April Scout event or riding party program, we will move you to June. If you are a lesson or lease person you will return in May or June. If

you are registered for Spring Break Riding week, we will re-schedule it, maybe first week of June? Based on the conditions.

- 2.) If we return in May and the virus has calmed down a lot, then we will be riding our time and be dismissed home immediately after your lesson. For example, leasing, set up to ride three hours, rider will come in indoor, your horse will be waiting, rider will mount, ride your time. We will ride outside as much of the lesson as we can. You will dismount, go to your car and go home. Cars will be spaced apart in the parking lot, away from entrances and exits. I will cone off the parking lot or spray paint the parking lot. You will see where the new area is to park.
- 3.) In June if schools do not open and it is safe environmentally, I'm working on providing a day horseback riding program for the month of June. (This is in addition to summer program.) It would be discounted to meet the needs of our families, and the arrival and dismissal times would be different for each of you, Or if things do calm down, I can open up Tuesday Wednesday Thursday and Saturday during the month of May and June for lessons and makeups? Based on the conditions.
- 4.) Ms. Amy and staff have students around us all of the time. We will be operating in a much further distance, always in view, always. Braiding each other's hair and doing each other's nails will end for a while too. No more hanging on each other. Piggyback rides and any other contact will end for a while.
- 5.) Lunches and other meals. We will be eating on picnic tables in the arena or the north area outside as much as we can, from here on in. We can eat in the second level of the stables. We can eat in the

lower pasture. We have many outdoor areas to eat. Separately, but together.

- 6.) Dropping off for a lesson, picking up someone for a lesson, providers or parents that stay and watch the rider ride, all of this will change. You can drop off, do not get out of your car. You can pick up and you must wait in your car until the rider comes out. If you are dropping off a rider, for a one-hour lesson, park in your designated area, the rider will come out to your car. Disabled and small children can walk across a parking lot. WE WILL BE WATCHING..... You can no longer enter the buildings and visit with the horses. You are scheduled to be here and ride. You can no longer sit in my tack room to do your office work during your child's lesson. Yes, you can leave and come back 45 minutes later to pick up your rider. If you are late, the rider will be waiting in the parking lot. I will set-up chairs in the parking lot. The rider can use the gorgeous outhouse we have on-site. There will be an outside handwashing area. This is to keep everyone out of the buildings. This will occur in May and maybe June? Based on the conditions.
- 7.) July and August should be back to more normal routines. I would anticipate normal camps and normal programs. Yes, overnight camp too. It will all be based on the conditions.
- 8.) Do not stop by and see the horses during this time. If you left something behind in your bin, oh well. You'll see it in the next couple weeks.
- 9.) Sick policy for the past 20 years, the same sick policy applies, if you are ill stay home and away from the Meadows of Mendon stables. I have never allowed anyone to be sick and remain here

at the stables. If you've been exposed to COVID-19, you will not be allowed to enter the stables for 90+ days. I would expect you would get retested and be able to submit a paper stating that you are negative that must be sent over prior to your lesson. 90+ days you must stay home, per stables policy. My policy will change on this, I may keep you out longer.....Based on conditions.

Questions through email and texting- Answers to commonly asked questions.....

Each family will be contacted, yes I am planning for summer program, continue to make payments for summer program. My email is overwhelmed with calls and emails. Yes, if you have pre-paid, you will receive credit for March and April, thank you for pre-paying ahead, I promise to get to each and everyone of you. Yes, we are still on a waiting list with lessons, and yes I expect those numbers to climb. Yes, horseback riding is unique because we can be separately together Riding. Yes, Ms. Amy will have to exercise 23 ponies and horses, Group Lunging, yes.....,Yes, Ms. Amy is confident that we can keep 23 horses safe from the virus, Yes, the ponies and horses will miss all of you!, Yes, Harrison is home full-time to watch over the stables, Yes, Jon is devoted to full-time duties at the stables, Yes, Hannah said she can fill water buckets and dump buckets, Yes, Ms. Amy is hoping we can all move to on-line registration and payment and Yes, the ponies and horses will be fine, and yes they are all healthy!

I will be available for phone calls at 585 – 582 – 1437, and you can email me at **MeadowsofMendon**stables@twc.com.

I am sure I will be on email each day early in the morning. The website will change in the next week. I will continue to post photos of the animals on Instagram. We will watch all the horses, ponies and all of the animals at the Meadows of Mendon stables. We will all get through this and be fine. We all need to work on being calm, patient and thorough.

May God Bless You,

Warmly, Ms. Amy, Harrison, Jon, Hannah, house cats, Tipper, Abby, and all the animals at the stables!