

### **63. EQUINE AGRICULTURE**

We support:

1. Relationships with entities that would allow establishment, access, and maintenance for equine trail activities on publicly-owned recreational trails.
2. Simplifying the process allowing volunteers to assist state/federal workers in trail maintenance and camping areas and to accept donations of items to enhance trails and camping areas.
3. Education programs to promote a viable and growing equine industry. Such programs may include: responsible ownership, animal husbandry, regulations affecting the equine industry, and disease awareness.
4. Efforts to provide insurance and liability coverage that is accessible and reasonable for equine owners and participants involved in equine related activities.
5. Seeking legislation allowing equine harvesting in Illinois.
6. Options for end-of-life alternatives for equine including humane harvesting and processing for human consumption, or other uses to produce marketable products, provided all state and federal guidelines are observed.
7. Continued full funding of federal meat inspectors for equine harvesting facilities.
8. The expansion and economic welfare of the horse racing industry.
9. Encouraging equine owners to work with veterinarians in practicing regular equine health standards.
10. Performing an annual Coggins Testing to identify Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA).
11. Administering vaccinations, relevant to travel, and exposure to regional disease and infection.
12. Using a routine schedule and strategy for treating and preventing internal equine parasites.
13. County Farm Bureaus creating and maintaining county and/or multi-county equine committees.
14. Efforts to develop and execute an Illinois equine census.
15. Seeking legislation classifying equine as livestock.

We oppose closing existing equestrian trails on federal and state property other than property where irreversible damage could occur.