

The Gelding Project: *Helping the Unwanted Horse One Stallion at a Time*

The Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition, the Minnesota Horse Council, the Animal Humane Society, and the University of Minnesota Extension in cooperation with the Minnesota Association of Equine Practitioners are launching **The Gelding Project**. This program is designed as a key step to reduce the number of unwanted horses in Minnesota. The first aspect of the project, *Education Earns Stallions to Geldings*, will encourage horse owners to choose to make stallions into geldings through education and financial incentives. An interested horse owner who enrolls in the program will be eligible for a voucher to cover the cost of castration surgery by a participating veterinarian, once the owner attends 8 horse health and management educational sessions.

Here's how the program works:

1. Get an official voucher from participating veterinarians, the Minnesota Horse Council, or members of the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition (more information listed on www.mnhorsecouncil.org). Vouchers cost \$5.
2. Attend 8 horse health and management educational sessions, including: General Horse Care, Reproduction, Nutrition, Facilities/Manure Management, Equine Dentistry, Vaccinations and/or De-worming, Horse Behavior, and a Lecture on the Unwanted Horse or volunteer 2 hours at a MN Horse Rescue.
3. Contact a participating veterinarian to arrange castration of the stallion
 - a. The stallion must be halter broke
 - b. The stallion must have 2 descended testicles
 - c. Farm calls are not covered by the voucher
4. The voucher covers the cost of castration, anesthesia, post operative antibiotic and tetanus vaccination or anti-toxin.
5. Complete The Gelding Project evaluation before you leave the clinic.
6. You must be at least 18 years old and a Minnesota resident to participate.
7. For more information, contact Krishona Martinson (krishona@umn.edu or 612-625-6776) or Julie Wilson (wilso011@umn.edu or 612-625-3745).

Minnesota Horse Council
13055 Riverdale Drive N.W., Box 202
Coon Rapids, MN 55448
www.MnHorseCouncil.org