

SCOTLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1405 West Boulevard • Post Office Box 69
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28353-0069
Phone (910) 277-2440 Fax (910) 277-2450



Wayne Raynor, MPH
Health Director



Signs of Equine Neglect

Poor Body Weight: Check the Henneke Chart to determine the outline levels of a horse's condition.

Poor Hair Coat: A long dead hair coat reflects poor nutrition and/or internal/external parasites.

Dehydration: Pinch the skin over the shoulder blade. If it takes more than two seconds to return to normal, the horse is dehydrated.

Shelter: The area for the horse/s should have at least a stand of trees to provide shade in the summer and block the cold winds in winter. Recommend a basic shelter from the **Horse Basic Standards of Care** as the minimum.

Veterinary Care: Equine need regular veterinary care to ensure their health. If a horse has signs of disease or injury that are not being attended to by a Veterinarian, **it may be considered a case of neglect.**

De-worming: This is essential for a horses' health. Signs a horse is not receiving de-worming medication includes abdominal bloating, rub marks on tail and points of buttocks, poor body weight, and poor hair coat.

Farrier Care: Equine hooves need to be cared for and maintained on a regular basis. If not, they will eventually experience difficulty walking, or more serious hoof abnormalities. Inspect feet for condition, length, and presence of thrust. If they appear to be too long, cracked, infected or the horse appears lame, **it may be considered a case of neglect.**

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