Dear New Mexico Horse Society,

The New Mexico Livestock Board hereby issues this guidance on compliance with the Governor’s order to close all non-essential businesses to the public effective 8:00 AM Tuesday March 24, 2020. The complete guidance can be found at https://cv.nmhealth.org/.

In addition to the guidelines outlined in the State of New Mexico Governor’s instructions, the State Veterinarian’s office advises all Horse Rescues and Boarding Facilities to cease all unnecessary operations and activities, engage in horse care activities (to include exercising) only, and close their facilities to all but essential staff. If a facility has clients that engage in self-care for their horses these individuals are allowed to come to the facility for horse care activities only. Moving forward, the facility owner or manager should take control of developing a schedule in which clients are assigned a time to visit the facility to care for their horse(s). This will minimize the number of individuals at the facility at any given time. If a client has a horse on full or partial care (whose needs are being met by staff), those individuals are asked to refrain from visiting the facility. In addition, if it is possible to decrease the amount of staff at a facility, in order to minimize the number of individuals coming and going, an employer is asked to do so.

Please note that these are the directives as of Wednesday, April 1, 2020 and it is possible they will change in the coming days and weeks. We will continue to update you as the situation develops and more information is obtained from both the Offices of the Governor, the NM Livestock Board and State Veterinarian. Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns and we will do our best to address them! You may also visit The New Mexico Department of Agriculture’s website for updated information https://aces.nmsu.edu/covid19/.

Thank You

Belinda Garland
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