



# HHEE Natural Horse Care Syllabus

## Part I: Natural Horse Care

### Module 1: What Do Horses Need to Live as Naturally as Possible and WHY?

- Topics:
  - Traditional Horse Care
    - Why have horses been kept this way?
    - Challenges and Benefits
  - The 3Fs
    - Friends – equine relationships, importance of equine relationships and interaction, benefits of equine relationships
    - Forage – digestive system, appropriate diet
    - Freedom – importance of movement, creating an environment that encourages movement, different styles of horse environments, how to encourage movement in each, pros and cons of each, etc (open paddock, track system, equicentral)
  - Equine senses
    - How do they differ from ours?
  - Enrichment
    - What is it?
    - Why is it important?
    - Enrichment ideas
  - Natural Horse Care
    - Challenges
    - Benefits

### Module 2: Hoof Care, Health Care, and Other Important Topics

- Topics
  - Hoof Care
    - Hoof structure and function
    - Shoes
      - Why did humans first start using shoes?
      - Why has the practice persisted?
      - Challenges and complications of shoes on horses living naturally
    - Transitioning to barefoot
  - Health Care
    - Transitioning diet safely
    - Health concerns with new arrivals
    - Policies and Protocols
      - Vaccinations
      - Worming
      - Dental
      - Injuries
      - Sickness



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- Other Important Topics
  - Blanketing
  - Manure Management
  - Fly Control
  - Providing Reasonable Safety

### Module 3: Setting Up or Rearranging a Property

- Topics
  - Permitting and Regulation Checks
  - Considerations
    - Current infrastructure
      - Structures, roads, drainage, fences, utility access, etc.
    - Property Conditions
      - Footing, flood areas, safety, fire risk, regulation limitations, etc.
  - Property Case Studies
  - Recommendations
    - Picking Layout Type
    - Viability of Current Infrastructure for Your Goals
    - Suggestions
  - Selecting Appropriate Materials and Equipment
    - Shelters
    - Fencing
    - Feeders
    - Watering options

### Module 4: Managing your Property and Herd

- Topics
  - Managing a Property
    - Daily routine
    - Weekly considerations
    - Monthly considerations
    - Handling feed orders
    - Scheduling and handling for trimming and vaccination clinics
  - Managing a Herd
    - Your Safety
    - Know your herd
    - Transitioning new herd members
    - Herd dynamics
      - Resource hierarchy
      - Leadership hierarchy



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## Part II: Interpersonal Skills

### Module 1: Interpersonal Skills

#### - Topics

- Finding Supporting Professionals
  - Vet, Trimmer, Body Workers, Feed Suppliers
- Interacting with the Community
  - Finding peers
  - Educating others
  - Receiving feedback
  - Giving constructive feedback