

NEXT SERVICE PROJECT:

March 11-13
Horse Expo
Booth Volunteers Needed.

NEXT RIDE:

Feb 12
Coalville Rail Trail

NEXT MEETING:

Thur Feb 11: 7 pm,
[Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

THANK YOU!

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Mountain Ridge

Back Country Horsemen of Utah

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
CORNER CANYON TRAILS**

Has anyone ever taken the time to wonder why it is so hard to find a place to ride on a summers evening in the Salt Lake valley? ... How many times have you heard someone say, "I remember when your could ride from my backyard all the way to"...

The reason, of course, is there are only a few areas you can ride in the valley. Yellow Fork Canyon, when you can find a place to park. Jordan River Trail Complex, if you can figure out which equestrian trail is open. Dimple Dell Park, which is a great resource, and I encourage everyone to ride there as often as possible. Corner Canyon, as many discovered last year when we had a chapter ride there, is also a great place to ride.

This month I want to focus on Corner Canyon trails. There are more than 40 miles of trails, which horses can be on, all are multi-use trails, except the Draper walking trail. There are nice trailheads with easy access to the parking lots and the trails. The trails have good surfaces, most are wide, and all are a nice grade. There are many people using the trails on the weekend, but some days, you can ride

there and see very few people.

The trails in Draper have been designed for horse use and many horse people have fought hard to make this so. Horse people, in disproportionate numbers, contribute to building, maintaining and policing the trail system of Corner Canyon. Many Draper city officials have stated they would be disappointed to see horse traffic "go away". The truth, if the number of riders continues to go down we will lose this great trail system to other more demanding interests.



Bob Baker riding in Corner Canyon.

I implore all of you to get on these trails as often as you can. There are some restrictions on these trails, most are posted- so read and follow the signs. One area, which is watershed, can be ridden in by obtaining a permit from Water Pro Inc. On the next page, you will find an application for the permit. It is very simple, fill it out and fax to Water Pro Inc. The procedure then is to simply call Water Pro Inc. and inform them what days you will be enjoying the trails in the area. These easy steps will get MRBCHU members on the books, and put officials on notice that we are still riding the trails of Corner Canyon.

— Bob Baker

Pack and Saddle Animal Permit

Bear Canyon Trails

For Horses, Mules and Burros

All pack and saddle stock users must obtain a backcountry use permit for both day use and overnight camping.

Rules and Restrictions

Where trails are present, stock must remain on trails.

Free trailing or loose herding is not allowed.

Stay at a slow walk when passing hikers.

When standing, keep stock a minimum of 100ft from all drainages.

Group sizes are limited to 6 animals.

Keep animals out of water at all times.

Keep a copy of the permit on your person at all times.

Feed animals certified weed-free hay or pelletized feed 2 days before trip.

Immediately remove all manure dropped in or near any water to at least 100 feet from water to avoid contamination.

At trailheads and other loading areas, you MUST pick up any manure spilled from the trailing unit, fresh excrement, or feed before departing.

Camping

Overnight camping with horses is prohibited within 300 ft of any water.

Clean up and remove any manure and excess feed.

When overnight camping, stake the stock to reduce damage to vegetation and watershed. They may not be unstaked and hobbled.

All parties are required to scatter manure upon vacating a campsite.

Animals that remain in an area longer than 12 hours should be rotated to a new picket site and any manure at the old site scattered at least 300 feet from any water.

Violation of these rules may lead to a complete ban on all stock animals in Bear Canyon.

Name _____ Phone number (____) _____

MRBCHU

Address _____ City _____

Number of animals _____ Number of people _____

Date issued ____/____/____ Length of stay _____

Dates of trip T.B.A to ____/____/____ Trails used _____

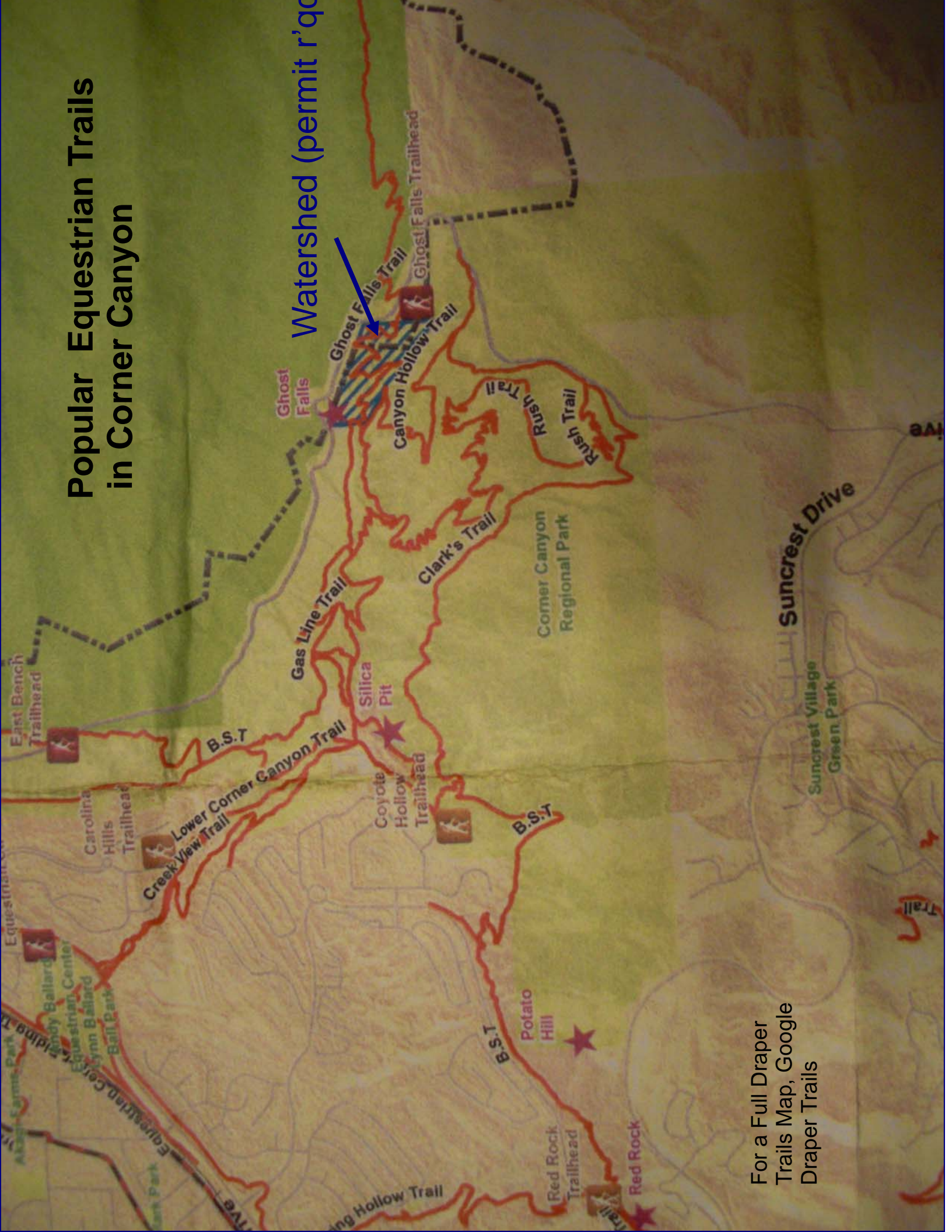
I hereby agree to have everyone in my party follow the above restrictions and acknowledge that a violation of these rules may result in future denials for permit and a complete ban on pack animals from all watershed areas.

(Signature)

Permit Issued by WaterPro Inc. 801-571-2232
12421 South 800 East Draper, UT

FAX to: 801 571 8054

Popular Equestrian Trails in Corner Canyon



Watershed (permit r'qd)

For a Full Draper
Trails Map, Google
Draper Trails

MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCHU 2011 SCHEDULE



The Rail Trail goes from Park City to Echo Reservoir. Ride Feb 12

Ok. Make reservations in loop E at recreation.gov 1-877-444-6777

July 9, American Fork Canyon (contact Pat Wilson). 5-6 hour ride, trotting included. Steep trail, horses must be in shape. Ride OK for dogs.

July 14, 7pm Monthly Meeting

July 22-23 (riding days), Island Park (contact Paul Kern) RSVP! Maximum 14 people can go.

Feb 10 (Thur) 7pm Monthly Meeting, [Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

Feb 12, Coalville Rail Trail (contact Sue Hall 801-277-1602) From I-80 East, Coalville Exit, follow signs to trailhead. Be ready to ride at 10, Very easy trail, generally Ok for barefoot horses. 3-5 hours, depending on our speed. Bring lunch and water.

Mar 10, 7pm Monthly Meeting



March 11-13 Horse Expo, South Jordan Equestrian Center. Booth volunteers needed

Mar 19, Mile Marker 10 ride and cleanup (contact Perry White) Ready to ride at 10, bring lunch and water. Ride OK for dogs.

April 14, 7pm Monthly Meeting

April 16, 8am Yellow Fork Trail Rerouting project (contact Jo Stoddard) Bring shovels, hand and

chain saw, pick, gloves, etc.

April 23, Yellow Fork Ride (contact Bob Baker), Ready to ride at 8:30am.

May 12, 7pm Monthly Meeting & Sandy Pride Trails Day Project (contact Doris Richards)

May 14, Corner Canyon, (contact Jo Stoddard / Paul Kern) Ready to ride at 10. Meet at Andy Ballard Arena. About a 3 hour ride, bring lunch and water.

June 9, 7pm Monthly Meeting

June 10-11, Bryce Canyon (contact Ray Smith) RSVP!

June 18, Camp Kostopulos Veterans Ride Service Project at Dimple Dell (contact Bob Baker)

June 24-26 Blackhawk Rides and Campout, Reserve a campsite in Loop E. Ride Saturday leaves at 10. If you want to ride Sunday, let me know. (contact Cindy Furse) Dogs

Aug 19-21, Pack Trip (contact Fred Leslie or Cindy Furse), location TBD (Uintas?) RSVP!

Aug 11, 7pm Monthly Meeting

Sept 8, 7pm Monthly Meeting

Sept 24, Hemangog Ride (contact Bob Baker)

Oct 1, Saddlebred Obstacle Course in Dimple Dell (contact Doris Richards)

Oct 7-9, Robber's Roost (contact Bruce Kartchner), RSVP! Tough riding, requires excellent condition for horse and people.

Oct 15, Settlement Canyon (contact Paul Kern)

Oct 13, 7pm Monthly Meeting

Oct. ?? Bison Roundup

Nov 10, 7pm Monthly Meeting

Nov. 5, Johnson's Pass (contact Larry Newton)

Dec 8, 7pm Christmas Party & Monthly Meeting

BCHU MOUNTAIN RIDGE MEETING 13 JANUARY 2011

Present: Pat Wilson, Fred Leslie, Cheryl Smith, Scott and Doris Richards, Cindy Furse, Sue Hall, Carol Bartos, Sandy Williams, Ray Smith, Jo Stoddard, Tom Smith, Bruce Kartchner, Paul Kern, Bob Baker, Lisa Baker, Perry white, Stephanie Yeager, Diana vanUitert, Paul Deputy, Larry Newton, Meeting called to order by Bob Baker: 1905.

Larry Newton reported on the financial status of the unit. Along with membership dues the Christmas party auction is the main source of income for the club. The revenue from the auction was

down this year: there was no raffle which gave us over \$240.00 last year and there was no big ticket items like saddles. The membership roster is down for 2011 by ½. Larry asked that members call the names on the "not renewed" list he distributed at the meeting and ask them to renew if they intend to.

Bob Baker stated that he would like to see the club focus on local service projects this coming year and to have local rides as much as possible. He also would like to have some rides on which club members that want to can bring their dogs.

Our first service project for 2011

will be January 15, 2011, at the Trails Extravaganza at the Legacy Center in Farmington. **Pat Wilson, Bob Baker, Ray Smith, Diana vanUitert** volunteered to man the booth for Mountain Ridge.

The Annual General Membership Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. January 14, 2011 at the Davis County Fairgrounds .

General discussion followed for the setting of the year's activities, projects, and meeting times and group rides.

The meeting concluded at 2105. Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Wilson

MRBCHU REVIEW 2010

Paul Kern presented this overview of our 2010 activities at the State BCHU meeting 1-14-2011.

During the calendar year 2010, the Mountain Ridge Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Utah accomplished the following:

- Our booth at the Trails Extravaganza was an attractive, informative and well staffed event. Our chapter helped staff the BCHU booth at the Trails Expo and presented packing demonstrations to the public.
- Each monthly meeting was a significant well attended event covering a specialized topic. Some topics covered were: custom hat making, custom saddle making, horse first aid, dutch oven cooking, equine photography, bare foot trim as well as a private concert of cowboy poetry and music,
- Our monthly rides were headed up by individual members and seemed to multiply as our members confidence level increased in guiding and leading

back country rides.

- Outside of the Wasatch Front, members participated in significant pack trips in Utah, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Some members participated in the Castle Rock to Coalville Wagon Train. Several members of our Chapter are also



members of the Pony Express Association and rode in the 150th anniversary re-ride across the state of Utah.

- 2010 was a good year for service hours for Mountain Ridge -

503 Regular hours, 505 Trail Hours and 68 LNT Educational Hours, 209 Admin hours. This involved the use of 74 head of stock.

- During the Heber Cowboy Poetry week, our chapter organized discount tickets for the Riders in the Sky concert at Abravanel Hall. 68 members attended.
- Our Chapter newsletter, edited by Cindy Furse is second to none, and contains a nice mix of photography, reporting, horse and backcountry information as well as cowboy poetry.
- Our Chapter provided a small committee to help organize the January 2011 State meeting. Our year end Christmas party was a success and is an event member look forward to each year.

I appreciate the opportunity of having served as President for the year 2010. This is my report.

— Paul Kern

H O B B L I N G Y O U R H O R S E

When we go packing this summer, we will ride a beautiful mountain trail, cross gurgling streams, and find a lovely grassy meadow beside a crystal lake to camp for the night. There we will hobble our trusty horses (and mules, Steve & Marsha!) so they can graze for a couple of hours before we tie them to the high line for the night. NOW is a great time to get a pair of hobbles and train your horse to trust them, so you can go packing too!

There are lots of different hobbles, and everyone has an opinion or two about them. Check out the selection at horse.com or [outfitters supply](http://outfittersupply.com). Most horse adjust well to the two-legged hobbles. Some adjust TOO well (Keith's experienced pack horses can gallop in

theirs, for example), so the 3-legged hobbles may be better (an extra hobble goes to a back leg). Another option is to tie the lead rope to the hobbles to keep the horse's head down. There is a worry the horse may do a somersault and hurt himself if he panics in this configuration, but many folks swear by it. Another option is a picket line. The horse is picketed by a single hobble to a picket line staked

in the ground. This method is often used, but has some risks. If the horse panics, it can be in full gallop before it hits the end of the line and jerks one foot to a stop. It can also jerk the stake out of the ground and be galloping around swinging a deadly flying object.

And if it gets the rope wrapped over or around another ankle (typically kicking at it), it can give itself quite a nasty rope burn that is very difficult to heal (usually on the ankle where



Utah Hobbles
(horse.com)



there is a lot of motion and exposure to grime). Larry runs the rope through 8' or so of garden hose, pushed up close to the hobble, because horses won't get burns from the hose, and the rest of the rope is behind them. He just attaches the hose to their halter and lets them drag the hose-rope combo. Many people make their own [hobbles](#) from a soft cotton lead rope twisted around the horse's legs as shown here. A metal ring (from the hardware store) can be used instead of the pink tie to hold the final knots in place. Another more common variation is to tie both ropes together with a single large knot at the end, making a loop rather than the two smaller knots. Either way, the idea is the same.

A common debate is whether to hobble on the cannon bones or the ankle. As far as I can tell, that is an open debate, and both methods work fine.



EMAIL OR SNAIL MAIL ?



Save a tree! Each month it costs just under \$1 to copy and mail this newsletter to you. If you received this newsletter by snail mail, and if you would be happy to save a dollar and save a tree, email cfurse@ece.utah.edu to receive future newsletters email only.



Each month I email the color newsletter to everyone with an email on file. If you are NOT receiving this by email, please send me your corrected email address. Thank you! Cindy

HOBBLES (CONTINUED)

It is CRITICAL to train your horse to be comfortable with hobbles AT HOME well in advance of your pack trip. There are several sites and videos on the internet with different ways to do this. In general, the first thing to do is to get your horse very comfortable with 'giving' to rather than fighting pressure from a rope around his legs and feet. Use a rope long enough you aren't in immediate kick or fall upon locations, loop (don't tie) the rope around a front or rear hoof, put a bit of pressure on the rope, and hold it until the horse moves its foot a little in the direction of your pressure. Release immediately, praise, etc. Gradually increase your expectations until you

can lead your horse around as well by a rope around his feet (any foot) as you can by his halter. Then work on the two front feet. Loop the rope around one foot with a second loop



around the other so you can release both or either if the horse gets upset. Let the horse experience having their feet constrained, and hope-

fully he will 'give' to this rather than fighting. Then you are ready to hobble. Do just one leg first, with a rope looped around the other leg so you can release if you need to. At this point, my horse was not fighting at all. It probably helped that I did this on the nice green lawn where he was more interested in eating than in fretting about his feet. Always get HELP from an experienced trainer if you are uncertain about your abilities or how your horse will react. Take the TIME your horse needs to get comfortable. Excellent site on hobbles and training <http://www.gaitedhorses.net/Articles/Hobble/hobble.shtml>

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
BCHU.Com

**MOUNTAIN RIDGE
BACK COUNTRY
HORSEMEN**

**Mountain Ridge Back Country Horsemen
P.O. Box 81
Riverton, UT 84065**

Join M.R.B.C.H. and preserve our heritage!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

HomePhone _____ **Work#** _____

Cell # _____ **e-mail** _____

Liability Release: MUST BE SIGNED

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse/mule use is involved, which can cause injuries to horse/mules, riders, and spectators and also recognizing the fact that Back Country Horsemen of Utah, including units, officers, directors, or members cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience of riders or horses/mules taking part in trail rides or other BCHU functions, I do hereby release the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children or horses/mules.

By signing this release, I/WE recognize the following Utah State Law, "UCA 78-27b- Limitations on liability for Equine and Livestock Activities." It shall be presumed that participants in equine or livestock activities are aware of and understand that there are inherent risks associated with these activities. "Inherent risk" with regard to equine or livestock activities means those dangers or conditions, which are an integral part of equine or livestock activities. The equine activity sponsor is not liable for those inherent risks. If you are unwilling to assume these risks for yourself or for those under your supervision, you should not participate in these activities.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____ **Signed** _____ **Date** _____

Make check payable to Mt. Ridge BCH, individual \$30/year, family \$40/year. New _____ Renewal _____

If you haven't already, renew today. Or pass this on to a friend.