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Welcome to Wulf Crest Farm's Equestrian Program

Our program blends a passion for classical equitation with a hands-on approach to horsemanship, offering a comprehensive equestrian experience in the heart of Northern Virginia. Established in 2021, our mission is to cultivate confident, competitive, and well-rounded riders, while ensuring that the journey is both enjoyable and rewarding.

Our dedicated team is committed to developing riders of all levels—from beginners mastering the fundamentals to experienced competitors aiming for success in the show ring. We specialize in Hunters, Jumpers, and Equitation, and our instructors believe in teaching from the ground up, highlighting the importance of horsemanship as a foundation for all riding. We emphasize solid fundamentals, safety, and correct technique, helping riders achieve their goals.

Our inclusive community fosters a supportive environment where both juniors and adults can refine their skills, expand their knowledge, and build lasting connections.

New Students

To get started, we'll schedule a one-hour evaluation lesson (\$100) to see if our program is the right fit for you. This session will also help us match you with the most suitable instructor and horse. The lesson includes a tour of our barn and an assessment of grooming and tacking skills, followed by time in the saddle.

Lesson Payment Policies

We offer two pricing options for lessons: Standard and Senior Level instruction. Standard Level instruction is offered in both private and group formats. Please refer to the [pricing sheet](#) for detailed pricing information.

Lesson Cancellation Policy

While we understand that illness and emergencies can arise, we maintain a 24-hour cancellation policy to ensure the smooth operation of our lesson program. Both a horse and instructor are reserved for each lesson, and as such, we require at least 24 hours' notice for cancellations.

- If 24 hours' notice is provided, you are eligible to reschedule a makeup lesson.
 - Cancellations made with less than 24 hours' notice will not be eligible for a makeup lesson.
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Make-Up Lessons

- **Senior-Level Lessons:** Makeup lessons can be scheduled within the same month or the following month.
- **Standard-Level Lessons:** Makeup lessons can be scheduled within three months from the date of purchase of a lesson package. The expiration date will be noted on your invoice.

Makeup lessons will be scheduled at the discretion of the barn, and while we will make every effort to accommodate makeup lessons, we cannot guarantee multiple makeup lessons at the end of the expiration period.

Lesson Schedule (current students)

Please plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to your lesson time to groom and tack your horse. The only exception to this rule is for beginner riders still learning the grooming and tacking process, as this will be incorporated into your lesson time. We recommend parents of younger beginners learn how to tack and untack a horse to allow for more saddle time! Horse assignments will be available on the [live lesson calendar](#) a couple hours prior to your scheduled lesson time. Plan on staying 30 minutes after your lesson to have time to properly untack, groom, and cool out your horse.

If you are enrolled in a group lesson, and only 1 rider is present for the day, the lesson will be automatically shortened to a 30 minute private lesson.

Tack and Grooming

Before your lesson, collect all necessary tack (saddle, half pad, schooling pad, girth, bridle) and place it in the grooming stall. Each horse has their own specific tack! Groom your horse

thoroughly before and after the lesson. Coats should be curried (curry brush), followed by a hard brush then a soft brush. Manes and tails should be brushed as well as feet picked out (hoof pick).

After your lesson, repeat all grooming steps. All lesson tack should be returned to the tack room, with saddles (stirrups up), half pads, and girths placed on the assigned saddle rack, and schooling saddle pads placed on the designated shelf. If a saddle pad is dirty or sweaty, kindly place it to dry on the middle drying rack in the tack room. Bits should be rinsed in the sink, wiped off with a clean towel, and put back on their hooks. Please ensure that the grooming stall is swept after your lesson. Brooms, muck buckets, and shovels are provided.

Most horses should be turned out in the appropriate field unless they have another lesson scheduled later in the day. Please refer to the turnout chart at the barn exit to the fields. If your horse was wearing a blanket when you retrieved it from the stall, ensure that the blanket is properly placed back on the horse after your lesson. If you are unsure how to properly place a blanket, please ask your instructor for assistance.

Lesson Structure

Once riders have demonstrated the ability to groom and tack up independently, they are expected to enter the ring fully prepared and ready to mount their horse. This includes ensuring that all preliminary tasks, such as adjusting stirrups, are completed *before* entering the ring. Doing so not only keeps the lesson running smoothly, but also maintains safety and respect for fellow riders and instructors.

Before mounting, every rider must perform a thorough safety check of their tack. This includes:

- Ensuring the girth is properly tightened (a loose girth can be very dangerous).
- Checking that the bridle is correctly fitted and secure.

While riders are responsible for this initial check, our instructors will always perform a final safety inspection of the tack before the lesson starts.

Once mounted, riders should begin by walking their horse around the ring to allow for a proper warm-up. This helps loosen the horse's muscles, focus its attention, and prepare both horse and rider for the lesson ahead.

When the lesson begins, the instructor will call out instructions and guide the rider or group through the planned exercises. If a rider is jumping, the second half of the lesson typically involves jump work, progressing through poles, grids, or full courses depending on ability and focus for the day. However, please note that some lessons may focus entirely on flat work, such as improving balance, position, transitions, and communication with the horse. Every lesson is tailored to the needs and progress of the riders and their horses!

Riding Attire

All riders are required to wear an ASTM/SEI-approved helmet. For your evaluation lesson, you are welcome to borrow one of our helmets. However, if you continue with lessons, you will be required to purchase your own helmet to ensure a proper fit.

For your evaluation lesson, please wear hard-soled boots with a heel. If you decide to continue lessons, you will need to purchase paddock boots for your safety and comfort.

Benefits of horseback riding

Horseback riding offers a unique combination of physical, mental, and emotional benefits for humans. Physically, it enhances balance, coordination, core strength, and posture as riders must engage multiple muscle groups to communicate with and stay aligned on the horse. Mentally, it promotes focus, discipline, and stress relief, as the rider must remain present and attuned to the horse's movements and behavior. Emotionally, horseback riding nurtures a deep sense of connection and trust between human and animal, which can boost confidence, reduce anxiety, and support emotional healing. For many, the experience of working with horses becomes a powerful form of therapy and personal growth.

We hope you enjoy riding at The Stables at Wulf Crest Farm!



Lesson Pricing / Policies Effective 7/1/25

Lesson Type	Description	Price
Standard Level Lessons		
30 Minute Private or 60 Minute Group	10 lesson package (expires 3 months after purchase)	\$725
60 Minute Private	10 lesson package (expires 3 months after purchase)	\$1,000
New Student Beginner Package (60 Minute Private Only)	4 lesson package (expires 1 month after purchase)	\$400
Evaluation Lesson (60 Minute Private)	Includes intro to barn, tacking and riding time	\$100
Senior Level Lessons (Bruce)		
30 Minute Private or 60 Minute Group	1 lesson per week	\$400/month
	2 lessons per week	\$720/month

Payment Policies and Terms

Lesson Payments

- Lesson Package (10 Lessons): Payment required before the first lesson. Invoices sent when the current package expires. Must be paid by invoice date (5 days) or we will charge the credit card on file.
- Monthly Package (Senior Level Instructor): Flat monthly rate for 4-5 lessons (depending on how days fall in each month). Lessons are prepaid and invoices are sent on the 25th, due by the 1st of the following month. Additional lessons billed the following month. If payment is not received by the 1st, the credit card on file is charged.

Boarding & Extra Services Payments

- Board: Invoiced on the 25th, due by the 1st.
- Show Fees: Due within 10 days of invoice.
- Late Fee: 5% on invoices 15+ days overdue.
- Overdue Payments: If unpaid after 15 days, the balance will be charged to the card on file including the late fee.

Payment Methods

- Lessons & Show Fees: Zelle, ACH, credit card, personal checks.
- Board: Zelle, ACH, personal checks (no credit cards).
- **All clients are required to keep an active credit card on file.**

Lesson Cancellation & Makeup Policy

- 24-hour notice required (by contacting the lesson coordinator via text 571-699-9943 or email info@wcfstables.com). Notification via your instructor is not sufficient. Cancellations with 24 hours notice are allowed a make-up lesson and riders are expected to keep track of their make-up lessons. Please note that **make-ups are subject to scheduling availability**, so we recommend planning ahead rather than waiting until the last minute.
- Make-up lessons expiration time frame-
 - 10 Lesson Package: Must be used within 3 months or forfeited.
 - Monthly Package: Must be used within the same or following month, or forfeited.
- **Lesson packages and prepaid monthly lesson plans are non-refundable and there will be no invoice adjustments for missed lessons.**

Contact Information

For any questions or concerns regarding our payment policies please contact our billing coordinator at billing@wcfstables.com.

Credit Card Authorization

By providing your credit card information, you authorize The Stables at Wulf Crest Farm to charge your card for all incurred charges. Your credit card information will be securely stored and only used for authorized transactions. Your credit card will ONLY be charged under the circumstances listed in this Payment Policy document.

Credit Card Authorization Form

Rider Name: _____

Billing Name: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Credit Card Type: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV: _____

Please note that to ensure the accuracy of the credit card information provided, we will charge \$1 to this credit card in Quickbooks. This amount will be deducted from future invoices. I have read the above payment and cancellation policy and authorize The Stables at Wulf Crest Farm to charge the above credit card for the agreed-upon services or purchases.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Show Pricing / Policies Effective 12/1/24

(all fees are charged per horse)

Service	Local	Rated
Senior Level Trainer	\$125/day + buy lunch (split)	\$150/day + buy lunch (split)
Trainer	\$100 + buy lunch (split)	N/A
Groom	\$50/day + buy lunch (split)	\$50/day + buy lunch (split)
Transport	\$50 flat rate + \$2/mile (split if shared)	\$50 flat rate + \$2/mile (split if shared)
Office Fee	\$20	\$20
Other Show Fees (if applicable)		
WCF Horse Use	\$75/day	
Stall (in-house)	\$40/day (outside participants)	
Horse Prep (if needed)	\$50/day	
Fetching Fee (if needed)	\$15/day	
Secretary/Entry Fee	Charged on show day to host	

- **Horse Prep for Show:** Riders must prepare their horse for the show. If not, staff will handle grooming and trimming, and the rider will be charged.
- **Hotels:** For multi-day shows, hotel costs for the trainer (private room) and groom (shared, if multiple) are split among participants.
- **Supplies:** Hay and feed are included at no extra cost. Shavings are invoiced based on the number of bales utilized.
- **Additional Expenses:** Any extra costs (e.g., parking, golf cart rental, tack stalls) will be split among participants.



RIDER'S INFORMATION

Please Print Clearly

Rider's Name _____

If Minor, Parent or Guardian's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone Number _____

Form of Payment _____ Amount _____ How did you hear about us? _____

GENERAL USE RELEASE

WITNESS THIS RELEASE dated this ____ day of _____, 20____, by and between **The Stables at Wulf Crest Farm LLC**, hereinafter referred to as **Management**, and _____,

hereinafter referred to as **User**, and, if User is a minor, User's parent or guardian, _____.

For consideration received, and in return for the use, today and on all future dates of the property, facilities and services of Management, Management's instructors, employees, drivers and agents; User, User's heirs, assigns, and representatives, hereby agree as follows:

1. Inherent Risks and Assumption of Risk. The undersigned acknowledges there are inherent risks associated with equine activities such as described below, and hereby expressly assumes all risks associated with participating in such activities. The inherent risks include, but are not limited to the propensity of equines to behave in ways such as, running, bucking, biting, kicking, shying, stumbling, rearing, falling or stepping on, that may result in an injury, harm or death to persons on or around them; the unpredictability of equines reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movement and unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals; certain hazards such as surface and subsurface conditions; collisions with other animals; the limited availability of emergency medical care; and the potential of a participant to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury to the participant or others, such as failing to maintain control over the animal or not acting within such participants ability.

User acknowledges that horses, by their very nature are unpredictable and subject to animal whim. User assumes all risks in connection therewith, and expressly waives any claims for any injury or loss arising therefrom. User agrees to abide by and follow Manager's rules and regulations which shall be posted and/or available from time to time. User further acknowledges that the behavior of any animal is contingent to some extent upon the ability of User. User assumes all risks therefore and warrants a full and fair disclosure of Rider's abilities has been made to Manager.

User expressly releases Management from any and all claims for personal injury or property damage, even if caused by negligence (if allowed by the laws of this State) by Management or its representatives, agents or employees.

Warning

1. Under Virginia Law, an equine activity sponsor or an equine professional shall not be liable for an injury to or death of a participant engaged in an equine activity resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §3.1-796.132.

2. User agrees to assume any and all risks involved in or arising out of User's use of any equipment or livestock pertaining to the rental of horses or taking of riding lessons, the use of any arena on the premises of Management and for purposes of taking riding lessons either on the premises or lessons given off the premises by Management personnel.

3. USER (OR USERS PARENT OR GUARDIAN IF USER IS A MINOR) AGREES TO HOLD HARMLESS, INDEMNIFY AND DEFEND MANAGEMENT AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, CAUSES OF ACTION, DAMAGES, JUDGMENTS, ORDERS, COSTS OR EXPENSES, INCLUDING ATTORNEY'S FEES, WHICH MAY IN ANY WAY ARISE FROM OR BE IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH USER'S USE OF OR PRESENCE UPON THE PROPERTY OF MANAGEMENT AND THE FACILITIES LOCATED THEREON. In the event User is a minor, the parent or guardian shall further indemnify, defend and hold Management harmless from any such claims by said minor child.

4. In the event User is using User's own horse, or a horse(s) not owned by Management, User warrants said horse(s) shall be free from infection, contagious or transmittable diseases. Management reserves the right to refuse access or use of any horse upon the premises that does not appear to Management to be in good health, or is deemed dangerous or undesirable.

5. Any action brought under this agreement shall be brought within one (1) year of the incident or accident giving rise to said claim. User agrees that damages shall be limited to \$250 for property damage, actual expenses incurred, and a maximum of \$10,000 for non-consequential damages such as pain and suffering.

6. User agrees to waive the protection of any applicable statutes in this jurisdiction whose purpose, substance and/or effect is to provide that a general release shall not extend to claims, material or otherwise, which the person giving the release does not know or suspect to exist at the time of executing said release.

Parent or Guardian if Rider is a Minor

Rider



Safety Rules

1. No running in the barn/around the horses.
2. No screaming, as it can startle the horses.
3. Always speak to your horse before approaching or touching him. Some horses are likely to jump and may kick when startled.
4. Always approach your horse from the front. If he's turned away from you, call to him or entice him with a treat to get him to come to you. Never approach your horse directly from the rear.
5. Pet a horse by first placing a hand on its shoulder or neck. The touch should be a rubbing action.
6. If he is tied, get him to look at you. Always notice a horse's expression before advancing.
7. When working around your horse, wear boots or hard-toed shoes to protect your feet. Never wear tennis shoes, moccasins or go barefoot.
8. When working around your horse, tie him securely with a quick-release knot, or have someone hold him with a lead rope. Use cross-ties when possible, but be sure they have panic snaps or are secured with a breakable tie, such as baling twine.
9. Always work close to your horse. If you are near his shoulder, you won't be struck with the full force of his feet, nor will you receive the full force of a kick if you stay close to the body when you work about the haunches or pass behind your horse.
10. Never stand directly behind a horse or directly in front of him.
11. Be calm, confident, and collected around horses. A nervous handler can make a nervous horse.
12. Do not drop grooming tools under foot while grooming. Place them where you will not trip on them and the horse will not step on them.
13. If the halter is too loose, the horse may catch a foot in it, especially if he is trying to scratch his head with a hind foot. A loose halter may catch on fence posts or other pasture objects.

14. When leading your horse, walk beside him—not ahead or behind. A position even with the horse's head or halfway between the horse's head and its shoulder is considered safest.

15. Always turn the horse away from you when releasing to turn-out.

16. It is customary to lead from the left (near side), using the right hand to hold the lead, near the halter. The excess portion of the lead should be folded, figure-eight style. When leading, extend your right elbow slightly toward the horse. If the horse makes contact with you, its shoulder will hit your elbow first and move you away from it. Your elbow can also be used in the horse's neck to keep the head and neck straight as well as to prevent the horse from crowding you. A horse should be workable from both sides, even for mounting and dismounting.

17. Never wrap the lead shank or reins around your hand, wrist, or body. Never drape a lead shank or reins across your shoulders or neck.

18. Don't wear jewelry around horses. Rings can cut deeply into fingers, and bracelets can get caught in reins or lead lines. Dangling earrings are particularly dangerous.

19. Be extremely cautious when leading a horse through a narrow opening, such as a door. Be certain you have firm control and step through first. Step through quickly and get to one side to avoid being crowded.

20. At any time you are dismounted or leading the horse, the stirrup irons on an English saddle should be run up or dressed. Be cautious of the stirrups of a Western saddle, which can catch on objects.

21. Never tie your horse by the reins as he may pull back and break the reins or injure his mouth. Always use a halter.

22. When riding, wear boots with proper heels to prevent your feet from slipping through the stirrups.

23. Always wear protective headgear, properly fitted and fastened.