

HORSEMANSHIP LESSONS

Hidden Creek is excited to offer Horsemanship Courses again this Winter. These are unmounted lessons designed to increase participants knowledge about horses and their safety and confidence around horses. More advanced courses include handling horses in more difficult situations, developing a deeper relationship with a horse, horse care and basic first aid. These courses will run as 8-week sessions with small groups of 5 or fewer. Lessons will be one hour each week. The cost for each 8-week session is \$160. Certificates will issued upon completion of each course.

We are also offering private ½ hour groundwork lessons for those who have specific concerns with handling their own horse. These lessons will be \$50 per lesson.

These Horsemanship Courses are open to anyone ages 6 through Adult who is interested in learning about horses and improving their skills and confidence - they are not limited to current Hidden Creek students. No prior experience with horses is required for the Beginner Horsemanship I course.

The Winter Session will be held on Thursday Evenings from January 11th through February 29th. The time for each class will be determined by registration numbers. If necessary, we will add a second night. To register or to obtain additional information, email us at jmk@hiddencreekequestrian.com or send us a message on facebook.

Course Offerings:

Beginner Horsemanship I (No Prior Experience Needed)

1 hour group lesson for 8 weeks - \$160

- Basic Barn Etiquette
- Barn Rules
- Importance of groundwork and realistic expectations
- Basic anatomy of a horse
- Colors/Markings of a horse
- Common horse terminology
- Body language of horses
- Grooming
- Basic haltering and safe leading of horses, including passing other horses in the aisle

Beginner Horsemanship II (Completion of Beginner Horsemanship I or previous experience with horses required)

1 hour group lesson for 8 weeks - \$160

- Blanketing
- Feeding Horses
- Medications
- Horse Treats
- Routine Horse Care - Dentist, Vet, Farrier
- More advanced leading - backing, open/closing gates, etc.
- Bathing (weather permitting)
- How to catch horse in stall and halter
- How to clean stalls

Intermediate Horsemanship I **1 hour group lesson for 8 weeks - \$160**
(Completion of Beginner Horsemanship II or previous experience with horses required)

- Turning horses out and bringing them back in safely
- How to approach and catch a horse in the field
- How to be the leader for your horse without force
- How to connect with your horse
- Basic First Aid for horses and how to know when to call the vet
- How to tack up a horse - parts of tack and how to keep tack clean and conditioned
- Purpose of bell boots, leg wraps, sports medicine boots and when, if at all, to use each

Intermediate Horsemanship II **1 hour group lesson for 8 weeks - \$160**
(Completion of Intermediate Horsemanship I or demonstration of ability/confidence/experience with horses)

- Walking horse through or over obstacles
- How to handle a nervous horse
- How to stretch a horse
- How to bring a horse's focus back to you
- How to longe a horse safely and effectively and when/why longeing is helpful
- Awareness vs. Fear (Horse and Handler)
- When it's time to let go of the lead rope
- Teaching a horse tricks

Advanced Horsemanship **1 hour group lesson for 8 weeks - \$160**
(Completion of Intermediate Horsemanship II or demonstration of ability/confidence/experience with horses)

- Learn to develop trust and partnership with a horse, including getting the horse to follow you and take directions from you off the leadline
- Increased focus on the lessons from the previous sessions
- Focus on areas of participants concerns when dealing with horses on the ground

Private Horsemanship Lessons **½ hour private lesson as needed - \$50**

- Work one-on-one with your instructor on your specific needs or areas of concern with your horse