

Happy Holidays & Thank You for Your Support!

Your Support Makes Our Work Possible!

NYSHA held an “Investigating Equine Cruelty and Neglect” workshop at the Essex County Sheriff’s Office this fall that attracted police from across the state. Attendees not only learned how to tackle equine cruelty cases, but also engaged in hands-on interaction with the rescued horses at the Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue located in Westport.

NYSHA was no stranger to the area. An “Investigating Animal Cruelty” workshop held there a few years ago acted as a catalyst that resulted in the sheriff department’s rescue of 43 starving horses later that year from a chronic animal neglector. NYSHA representatives returned to Essex to aid in the rescue effort. Police who had never handled horses before held their reins and stroked their faces, as veterinarians carefully examined them. There were concerns that some horses would be difficult to load onto trailers, so rescuers cheered when a mother horse and her baby swiftly clattered up the ramp into a trailer, as if to say, “Get me out of here.” After the ownership of the horses was forfeited to the impounding organization, the majority were adopted to good homes, but several remained with rescue organizations that wanted to care for them permanently

Sadly, this was not an isolated incident. Horse cruelty cases continue to plague the state. To address the problem, NYSHA supports the equine cruelty investigation workshop held yearly at Little Brook Farm in Columbia County for the benefit of law enforcement. NYSHA provides instruction on the animal cruelty



Police officers receive hands-on training from Dr. Naile at Essex Co. workshop.

laws while an equine veterinarian, Dr. Steve Naile, teaches the hands-on-the-horse portion, showing police what to look for on the horse’s body in determining neglect. Attendees later learn how to halter and lead the horses. Realizing the need for such training in other parts of the state, NYSHA enlisted the help of Dr. Naile and took the show on the road, returning to Essex County, as cases of horse neglect have often been reported in the North Country.

At the Essex workshop, after the classroom lectures, attendees traveled to Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue where Dr. Naile performed his hands-on-the-horse training, after which the attendees met and worked with various rescued horses. Police, some from as far away as Cattaraugus County, were impressed with the training and

many asked for workshops in their area. One attendee wrote in his evaluation that all police should receive this training. We could not agree more. The Agriculture and Markets Department needs to step up and provide such training.

NYSHA sees a need and acts to meet it, whether that be producing workshops, issuing rewards to help catch abusers who have committed crimes against animals, supporting important animal protective legislation, lecturing on important humane issues at conferences, providing much needed reference material on our website, or by offering guidance to police and humane

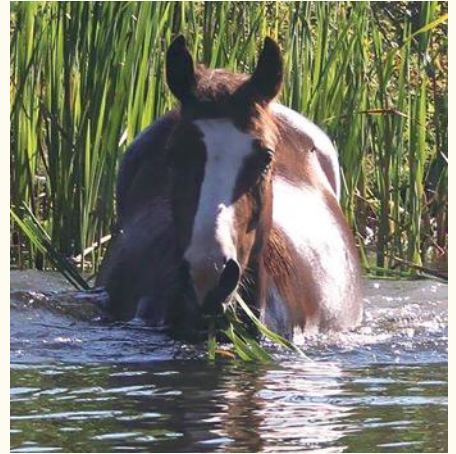


Mommy and Baby George on day of rescue.

agencies with animal cruelty cases.

And your generous support helps us do all of that! Please continue your kindness which enables us to help the animals we all care about. We appreciate you more than you know!

The Board and Staff of NYSHA wish you and your loved ones, including your beloved companion animals, a wonderful holiday season and joyful New Year!



Fully grown, George loves to swim and snack in pond at new home.



Beautifully recovered Mommy enjoys her forever home

New York State Humane Association
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