

Horseback Riding

NORMANTOWN TRAILS EQUESTRIAN CENTER HORSEBACK RIDING PROGRAMS

Explore your passion for horses at Normantown Trails Equestrian Center! NTEC offers riding lessons in English, Western, Hunter/Jumper and Dressage. Our lessons focus on safe handling and riding. We have a variety of school horses and ponies that can accommodate beginners and more advanced riders ages 8 thru adult. Children nearing 8 years old need to be evaluated before registering for private or group lessons. An evaluation lesson may be scheduled by calling NTEC at (815) 254-1950. There is a \$35 resident fee or a \$40 non-resident fee for this lesson. Classes for students ages 5-7 are offered throughout the year.

Barn Hours

Monday through Friday 9AM-8PM
Saturday and Sunday 9AM- 7PM
Closed on major holidays

**Resident Registration Begins
Friday, Aug. 6, 6-8 p.m.
Online & In-Person!**

Registration

Registration for group lessons and special programs can be done by using the registration form in this catalog, registering online, or by going to NTEC or the Recreation/Administration Center. Return the completed registration form and payment to NTEC or the Recreation/Administration Center. Students are registered on a first-come first-served basis. A waiting list will be created if needed. NTEC does not participate in a lottery.

Riding Attire

Long pants and sturdy shoes with a half-inch heel are the safest to wear when riding. Open-toed/open-heel shoes and flip flops are prohibited and cannot be worn while riding. Riding helmets must be worn while on horseback. NTEC has helmets available for use if the rider does not own one. Damage to helmets or tack will be billed to the rider.

Release Form

A Liability Release Form must be filled out and signed before you can begin riding. All participants are expected to follow the barn rules and regulations that are posted at the stable.

Weather Conditions

Riding decisions will be based on the health and safety of our participants and horses. Horse theory classes will be provided featuring topics such as wrapping, grooming, nutrition, and other equestrian educational topics at times when riding is not appropriate. If you choose to cancel your lesson because of the weather with less than 24 hours notice you will be billed for the lesson. If NTEC decides to cancel riding lessons you will be notified and will not be charged for the lesson. Any questions or concerns, please contact NTEC at (815) 254-1950.

DON'T DELAY!
**Programs that fail to reach minimum enrollment
5 business days prior to the first class meeting
will be canceled.**

24 Hour Cancellation Policy

Please remember your lesson is an appointment. Students need to arrive at least a half-hour early for their lesson or class. Late arrivals will not be able to make up missed riding or instruction time. A 24-hour cancellation notice is required. Students who do not give a 24-hour notice or do not show will be billed for that lesson time and may lose a standing lesson time slot.

Gift Certificates

Gift certificates for riding lessons are available for purchase at NTEC. Riding lesson certificates make a wonderful birthday, anniversary, holiday, or special occasion gift for anyone who loves to ride. Certificates are good for 60 days from the date of purchase. Call, e-mail, or stop by NTEC for more information.

Girl and Boy Scout Grooming Badges

Earn your grooming badge at NTEC! Scouts will learn the basics of horse safety and be shown how to properly groom a horse. The children will be divided into small groups after the demonstration to clean up a horse or pony. The grooming session is followed by a short ride on a horse or pony that is led by a handler. There is no riding instruction included. Sessions are available by appointment only and are limited to days and times when proper staff and horses are available. Sessions are 1 ½ hours long.

Ages 8 & up
\$20 R/ \$25 NR per child
Min. 5/Max. 12

Horseback Riding

Party with the Ponies

Celebrate your birthday or other special events with our ponies! Parties may consist of 3-12 children ages 5-10 years (height and weight of less than 4'6" and under 100 lbs). The two-hour party package is available on Saturdays or Sundays from 2 to 4 pm and includes exclusive use of the clubroom and pony rides led by staff members. Children who are waiting their turn to ride will be supplied with a craft. You provide the food, beverages, paper goods, and adult supervision for children in the clubroom. Parties must be booked at least two weeks in advance and scheduling is subject to availability. Sorry, no telephone reservations will be accepted as full payment is required to reserve a date. A \$50 cancellation fee will be retained if party is cancelled within one week of the date.

Residents \$250/Non-Residents \$350

\$20 per child over the maximum (no more than 15 children per party) To book a party, call the stable at (815) 254-1950.

Pretty Pony

If your child is not ready to jump in the saddle but enjoys being around horses, then schedule a 20 minute grooming session with one of our horses or ponies. One of our staff will explain and demonstrate proper horse safety and grooming techniques followed by your child grooming on his/her own. This is a great way to help children get comfortable around our large companions. Sessions are available on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Children must wear covered shoes to participate. Please call ahead to schedule an appointment.

Residents \$15/ Non-Residents \$20

Pony Power

Meet and ride Shadow, Magic, or Peter Pan! Pony rides are available for children ages 3-10 who are under 4'6" and less than 100 lbs. Pony rides last for 15 minutes and are led by a staff member. Covered shoes are required and a helmet will be provided. An adult must be present during the ride, and cameras are welcome. Pony rides will only be offered on Friday's after 4PM and on Saturday's from 10AM-12PM. Please call ahead to schedule an appointment. Ride and groom combos are available for an additional \$5. Participants choosing this option will get a 10 minute pony ride and a 10 minute grooming session.

Ride only: Residents \$15/Non-Residents \$20

Ride/Groom Combo: Residents \$20/ Non-Residents \$25



SPECIAL EVENTS

Schooling Shows

Watch NTEC students show off their riding skills!

Fall Schooling Show

Sunday, Sept. 19 at 9 a.m.

Halloween Fun Show

Sunday, Oct. 24 at 10 a.m.

NTEC Stable Slumber Party

Stay up late with the horses at a girls-only sleep-over! Participants will assist with night-time chores and help close up the stable for the night. Everyone will then retreat to the clubroom where they will watch a horse movie, eat popcorn, and play games. The girls will need to come prepared with a cot or air mattress as well as a pillow and blanket. They will also need to come dressed in barn clothes and bring comfortable clothes to change into after chores. In the morning, the girls will help feed and turn-out the horses followed by juice and doughnuts for their own breakfast. Please note: chores will be assigned based on ability. Also remember the girls will not be served dinner so they need to eat before they come.

Program #	Day	Date	Time	Location
13777A1	F/Sa	Sep. 10-11	7 pm-9 am	NORM
13777B1	F/Sa	Oct. 8-9	7 pm-9 am	NORM

Ages 9-16

R \$35/NR \$42

Min. 7/Max. 10

DON'T WAIT IN LINE - REGISTER ONLINE!

Register your household on our web site,

www.plainfieldparkdistrict.com

by Wednesday, Aug. 4 to use online registration starting Friday, Aug. 6 at 6 p.m.

Location Key

NORM Normantown Trails Equestrian Center
12151 S. Normantown Rd.

Horseback Riding

Haunted Pony Rides - NEW!

Trick-or-treat! The NTEC horses will be dressed in their best Halloween costumes and would like to invite you for a ride. We will also have candy for the participants. Rides are 10 minutes long and all riders must have a signed release form. Helmets will be provided. Please call ahead to book your pony ride time as those with reservations will be served first. We try to keep the ride times on schedule. However, it does take time to switch riders. Your patience is appreciated!

Day	Date	Time	Location
Sun.	Oct. 24	2-3:30 pm	NORM

Pony Rides \$10 (10 minutes long)

**Resident Registration Begins
Friday, Aug. 6, 6-8 p.m.
Online & In-Person!**

Holiday Pictures and Pony Rides

Celebrate the holidays with our ponies! Come to NTEC and get your child's holiday picture taken on our festively costumed pony, Peter Pan. Pony rides will also be available for this occasion. Rides are 10 minutes long and all riders must have a signed release form. Helmets will be provided. Please call ahead to book your pony ride time as those with reservations will be served first. We try to keep the ride times on schedule. However, it does take time to switch riders. Your patience is appreciated!

Day	Date	Time	Location
Sun.	Dec. 12	1-3 pm	NORM

Picture \$5
Pony Ride \$10
Combo \$15

Parents and Pee-Wees Level 1

Learn about horse care and riding with your animal-loving child. Classes will teach parent and child how to groom and tack as well as introduce the basics of horsemanship. Parents will be active participants in these classes and will learn how to safely lead a horse while their child is riding. Proper clothing by adults and children is mandatory.

Program #	Day	Date	Time	Location
12701A1	Tu	Sep. 7-28	5-6 pm	NORM
12701B1	Tu	Oct. 5-26	5-6 pm	NORM

Ages 5-7
R \$180/NR \$220
Min. 2/Max. 3

Parents and Pee-Wees Level 2

Introducing a new class for our younger riders who have successfully completed Pee Wee Level 1. Participants should have some knowledge of putting a halter on, leading, grooming, tacking, mounting, and dismounting. Parents will still be active participants during the lesson as the students work towards independent riding. Participants will continue to build their riding skills by learning balance exercises, independent steering at a walk, and how to properly ride at a trot.

Program #	Day	Date	Time	Location
12702A1	Tu	Sep. 7-28	6-7 pm	NORM
12702B1	Tu	Oct. 5-26	6-7 pm	NORM

Ages 5-7
R \$180/NR \$220
Min. 2/Max. 3

DON'T DELAY!
**Programs that fail to reach minimum enrollment
5 business days prior to the first class meeting
will be canceled.**

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Private Lessons

Private lessons are available for riders ages 8 and older. Schedule your private lesson by calling (815) 254-1950. Fee for ½ hour private lesson is \$35 for residents or \$40 for non-residents. Private lesson packages consisting of 4, 8, or 12 lessons are available for purchase. There is a \$10 discount for every 4 pre-purchased private lessons. Plan to be at the stable at least 30 minutes prior to your lesson time and remain at least 15 minutes after to care for the horse.

No refunds for package lessons.

Beginner I Semi-Private Lesson

Semi-private group lessons are an hour long and are limited to 2 riders per session. Students benefit from the extra time in the saddle and the small class size allows for more individual attention. Participants will learn how to approach, lead, mount, dismount, groom and tack a horse/pony and begin to learn the gaits of walk and trot. Riders can choose to ride English or Western. Instructors will assign a horse/pony to students. Learning is accomplished through demonstrations as well as hands-on experiences. The first session will be a non-riding lesson and will focus on horse handling, care, and safety. This class may be repeated until skills are mastered. Instructor approval is required to advance to the next level.

Program #	Day	Date	Time	Location
17701A1	Sa	Sep. 4-25	10-11 am	NORM
17701B1	M	Sep. 13-Oct. 4	6-7 pm	NORM
17701C1	M	Nov. 8-29	6-7 pm	NORM

Ages 8-18

R \$180/NR \$220

Min. 2/Max. 2

Beginner 2 Semi-Private Lesson

This class is for students who have successfully completed Beginner I group lessons. Participants need to be able to properly complete the following tasks before signing up for this course: put a halter on, lead a horse to the crossties, groom a horse, know what tack is needed for riding, and be able to correctly tack a horse with some assistance. These classes are an hour long with only 2 students per session. Riders will continue to work on their riding skills by learning to ride a figure eight, ride a serpentine, go over trot poles, and perform various balance exercises. This class may be repeated until skills are mastered. Instructor approval is needed to advance to the group lesson classes.

Program #	Day	Date	Time	Location
17702A1	Sa	Oct. 2-23	10-11 am	NORM
17702B1	M	Oct. 11-Nov. 1	6-7 pm	NORM
17702C1	Sa	Nov. 6-27	10-11 am	NORM
17702D1	M	Dec. 6-27	6-7 pm	NORM

Ages 8-18

R \$180/NR \$220

Min. 2/Max. 2

Specialty Group Lessons

Sample the various styles of riding in our new group lessons. Participants must have successfully completed Beginner 2 semi-private lessons or received instructor approval through an evaluation lesson. The following skills are required to enroll in this class: put a halter on, lead a horse to the crossties, groom a horse, tack a horse (NTEC staff will assist as needed), and be able to ride safely at a walk and trot with no assistance. The following is a description of the classes offered:

Intro to Dressage (Program #17703A1) - Dressage is a French term meaning "training" and its purpose is to develop the horse's natural athletic ability and willingness to work, making him calm, supple and attentive to his rider. Currently, competitive dressage involves nine progressive levels incorporating multiple tests within each level. Participants will learn one of the introductory level tests. All work at this level is done at the walk and trot with no cantering. Emphasis is on beginning to develop correct bend, relaxing and submission, and the horse's understanding of basic rider aids. Movements required are medium walk, free walk, and rising trot. All work is performed in straight lines, including the long diagonals, and on 20 m circles.

Intro to Jumping (Program #17703B1) - Do you want to learn how to jump one day? This class will start you in the right direction! Participants will work on balance exercises, proper jumping position, and riding over ground poles at a walk and trot. Students will work on learning how to navigate a course of ground poles.

Pattern Riding (Program #17703C1) - Spice up your riding with our pattern class. A pattern is a combination of maneuvers that must be completed in a precise way. The "directions" of how to carry out the pattern are written on paper so the rider can see what it is supposed to look like. Most patterns involve using cones as markers so riders know where to perform different tasks. It requires a great degree of horsemanship to be able to make the horse perform the pattern as written. Participants will work on a different pattern during each class.

Program #	Day	Date	Time	Location
17703A1	Th	Sep. 9-30	6-7 pm	NORM
17703B1	Th	Oct. 7-28	6-7 pm	NORM
17703C1	Th	Nov. 4-Dec. 2	6-7 pm	NORM

No class Nov. 25.

Ages 8-18

R \$140/NR \$170

Min. 3/Max. 3

Location Key

NORM Normantown Trails Equestrian Center
12151 S. Normantown Rd.