

## **Promoting equestrians and outdoor safety & Education in Arkansas**

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The Back Country Horsemen of Northwest Arkansas (BCHNWA) continues to demonstrate its dedication to the equestrian community through a series of impactful events and initiatives.

### **National Championship Chuckwagon Races**

A team of eight BCHNWA riders and campers proudly represented the organization at the 39th Annual National Championship Chuckwagon Races in Clinton, Arkansas. During the grand entry parade, the team carried the BCH flag and was featured in a live-stream broadcast on the Chuckwagon Channel, reaching millions of viewers worldwide. As one of the largest equine gatherings in the U.S., this event provided an outstanding platform to showcase BCHNWA's mission and values.

### **Trail Restoration Efforts**

Following the devastating tornado that struck Northwest Arkansas in June, BCHNWA members focused their efforts on restoring trails at Pea Ridge

Military State Park and Hobbs State Park. Certified sawyers worked tirelessly to remove fallen trees and debris, ensuring these trails remain safe and accessible for riders and outdoor enthusiasts alike.

## Community Engagement

Over the past year, BCHNWA has hosted more than 39 events, inviting equestrians to join in the collective effort to preserve and maintain riding trails across the region. These events continue to strengthen connections within the equestrian community while advancing the organization's mission.

## Safety and Education Initiatives

BCHNWA members have been actively leading state-level efforts to improve equestrian safety and education. Their work focuses on promoting trail etiquette and raising awareness to reduce conflicts between equestrians and e-bikes, bicycles, motorcycles, hikers, and other trail users. As part of this initiative, YouTube interviews with Arkansas equestrians have been produced to emphasize the importance of courtesy, education, and equine awareness in preventing avoidable accidents.

Local photographers and graphic design artists have generously created and donated educational materials to BCHNWA. These include posters and graphics that illustrate how horses perceive their surroundings, serving as powerful tools to enhance understanding and encourage safer interactions among all outdoor enthusiasts.

## Spreading the Message

BCHNWA remains steadfast in its commitment to promoting safety, education, and the preservation of equestrian trails across Arkansas. As part of the Arkansas Trail Safety and Awareness Campaign, videos highlighting these efforts can be viewed at the following

<http://BchNwa.net>

YouTube links:

[https://youtu.be/\\_YUugi1\\_aFs?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/_YUugi1_aFs?feature=shared)

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=8WC9eZ25kkg&feature=shared>

