



INFORMATION SHEET



MARYLAND LICENSED STABLE NETWORK (MLSN)

About the Network: In 1968, the Maryland General Assembly passed a law requiring commercial riding stables to be licensed. Largely because of this law, and subsequent rulings and regulations, Maryland, which has a centuries-old reputation for high quality horsemanship, became recognized as a national leader in horse and rider welfare.

Great horsemen and women from the Maryland Licensed Stable Network: *Beverly Raymond*, the Maryland Horse Industry Board's first licensed stable inspector, was recognized by the American Horse Council with its 2013 Van Ness Award for lifetime achievement in equestrian sports. Other distinguished MLSN alumni: Olympian *Suzanne Stettinius* (Mint Meadows Farm), World Games Champion *Mackenzie Taylor* (Taylormade Stables);), and National Horse Show Medal Maclay winner *Jacob Pope* (McDonogh School), to name just a few.

REGULATIONS

If you are:

A BOARDING, LESSON, RENTAL, RESCUE or SANCTUARY STABLE with one or more horses, and solicit business from the public, you must obtain a Maryland stable license. Exemptions include Thoroughbred, Standardbred and Steeplechase breeding and training farms.

TO OBTAIN A LICENSE

1. Contact the Maryland Horse Industry Board for an application: Ross Peddicord,, Executive Director at 410-841-5798, ross.peddicord@maryland.gov or visit the MHIB website www.mda.maryland.gov/horseboard.
2. Fill out and submit the application along with the annual \$125 fee. Application— due July 1 of each year.
3. Once MHIB receives your application, a stable inspector will contact you to set up an initial inspection.
4. Once you pass inspection, you will receive your license, which must be posted in your stable.

BENEFITS

1. Establishes a level of trust with clients that the stable is fully licensed by the state, is subject to unannounced inspections, and abides by state laws. Some customers will NOT do business with an establishment unless it is licensed.
2. Being licensed is a badge of honor, or, if you will, a Good Housekeeping™ Seal of Approval. It shows the operator is interested in equine welfare and cares about the safety of its customers.
3. Shows that the stable is a bonafide, professional operation and part of a larger statewide network that is considered a national leader.
4. Licensed stables can participate in marketing programs that have been established by MHIB to help grow the industry and are linked to other national programs, such as the American Horse Council's "Time To Ride" program. Licensed stables are also eligible for certain local, state and federal cost-sharing programs to improve their facilities, and for grants made by MHIB.
5. It's the law. By being licensed, an operation avoids operating illegally and subjecting itself to possible fines and other penalties.

**Maryland Horse Industry Board, 50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy., Annapolis, MD 21401
Ph: 410-841-5798 www.mda.maryland.gov/horseboard**