

Backcountry Horsemen of California
Mid Valley Unit
Annual Youth Horse Camp

We are pleased to announce the 2020 Youth Horse Camp, hosted by the Mid Valley Unit of Backcountry Horsemen of California. Our event will be held June 26-28, 2020 at the Kerrick Corrals near Aspen Meadows Pack Station, just off of Crabtree Road.

We have attached an application for the 2020 Youth Horse Camp. (Once completed, it can be returned either via email or postal mail.) The objective of the camp is to get our youth to comfortably enjoy the backcountry on horseback or mule ride. Our mission is to perpetuate the enjoyment and knowledge of using stock in the backcountry to our next generation. We are dedicated to working together as a committee to plan an event that will educate, inspire, and entertain our youth.

Eligible youth must be within **9-14** years of age as of June 26th. They must have their own transportation to and from the event. This event is **free** to our members! We will ask for a \$50 deposit, which will be returned to parents at the conclusion of the event. If you are not a member, you can join once your application is approved. (For insurance purposes.) You will begin receiving our monthly newsletter that contains the upcoming events that we would encourage you to attend. Participants will not bring their own horses; we will be utilizing the Aspen Pack Station horses for all youth.

For those that are unfamiliar with our organization, we want to be sure you are aware of the camping atmosphere. Participants will be sleeping in tents with other youth, there is one pit toilet available in the camp area, but while we are out riding on the trail, there are no facilities whatsoever. Temperatures and weather conditions in the mountains can vary; participants need to dress in layers and have one heavy jacket. A complete list of items that are essential for an event of this type will be provided once applicants are chosen. We will ride out (youth on Aspen Pack Station mounts) two different days; spending between 2-6 hours in the saddle each trip. Participants will be provided with riding helmets, but need to provide their own riding boots. Applicants must be prepared for a very physical weekend of riding, hiking, and typical camp activities.

Applications will be due **April 24th**. Once applications are turned in, we will be selecting the 12-14 youth that are best suited to this event. (In the case that we have more applicants than spots.) We will contact all applicants to notify them of the selected candidates by **May 5th** and email candidates all of the required forms. You will then need to complete and return the necessary paperwork and include the deposit check by **May 29th** in order to be eligible to attend the Youth Horse Camp. (And include membership dues if not already a current member.)

Parents are expected to drop off their children on Friday, June 26th, between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Just like school, parents are not expected to stay. The Kerrick Corral Camp area will be quite full with our activity, and our camp program will be much more effective without parent involvement. There will be between 5-7 adults present at all times, male and female. We will have a Satellite Phone available for emergencies. We will also be close to the Aspen Meadow Pack Station for additional support. Parents can pick up the participants on Sunday, June 28th, between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. We will hold our "participant ceremony" at approximately 11:30 a.m., and lunch will be available for parents as well.

For more information, please contact Karen Lopes (209) 756-5534 or e-mail kdlcowgirl66@gmail.com

The BCHC Mid Valley Youth Horse Camp Committee is excited to offer this opportunity to inspire and encourage our youth to get out and enjoy the backcountry! We are pleased to announce that all of our committee members will have been cleared with background checks in order to participate during the Youth Horse Camp.

Mid Valley Unit Youth Horse Camp Committee

2020 Mid Valley BCHC Youth Horse Camp Application
Application due Date: April 24, 2020

Name of Participant: _____ **Gender:** M or F **Age:** _____

Home Address: P.O. Box/Street: _____ **Town:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

How many years of experience do you have around horses/mules? _____

Using the following space, explain your experiences with horses/mules: (What type of riding do you do?

How often do you ride? Do you own your own horse/mule? Etc...) _____

Have you had experience camping before? _____ **If yes, explain where you were, what type of accommodations, and what activities you participated in?** _____

Why do you want to attend this camp? (We may have more applications than spaces...why should we select you?) _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **(Actual Signature Not Required if E-Mailing)**

Phone Number: _____ **home** _____ **cell**

Parent e-mail address: _____

E-mail or mail the completed one page application by April 24th to:

Karen Lopes kdlcowgirl66@gmail.com
8126 Sunset Drive
Atwater, CA 95301