

THE NATURAL CONNECTION INC.

WRANGLER JOB DESCRIPTION



The Natural Connection INC. expects employees to have a “safety first” mentality. Safety of our wranglers, horses and customers must be prioritized, on a daily basis. Hence, we strive to hire the most highly qualified applicants that envelop the philosophy of The Natural Connection INC.

The Natural Connection INC Philosophy

Riders must be willing to seek a natural connection with horses. What does that mean? The Natural Connection INC. encourages riders to find answers through learning the language of the horse. We watch with our eyes, feel with our hands and speak with our bodies. Speaking the language of the horse is essential, leading to a better ability for the human to share the needs of a horse to those who want to learn. The foundation of The Natural Connection INC. focuses on “Learning to Educate.”

In short, there are many people that consider themselves to be an advanced rider...and their description includes countless riding hours, with abilities such as, but not limited to, trotting, cantering, galloping, jumping, trail riding and competing in many disciplines. These riders may have learned the mechanics of riding and may be quite good at riding horses that know their jobs. However, these same individuals often do not recognize when a horse is upset, happy, scared, fearful, hungry, thirsty, in pain or content. Then again, maybe they do recognize these issues, however they don't know what to do to remedy the situation. Or these same individuals may not be open to putting aside their own personal knowledge and judgement of what they feel should be done with horses and often think their way is the “only way.” If this description sounds like you, and you are not willing to change or learn, DO NOT APPLY FOR THIS JOB.

Initial _____

Wrangler Job Description and Expectations

- Currently all positions are part-time only and vary from weekdays to weekends
- Wrangler must be considered an “Able-Bodied Participant”
- Knowledge about horses and horsemanship must be demonstrated through a working interview
- Physically capable of working an 8-10 hour days out in the elements
- Physically capable of heavy lifting, up to 50lbs, only on occasion
- Positive attitude and strong work ethic
- Available for required continuing education seminars that includes but is not limited to:
 1. Learning to train horses with specific methods
 2. Learning to communicate with customers
 3. Learning to teach and become an instructor on the trail
 4. Safety trainings such as CPR and First Aid
 5. Attending seminars off property regarding horse health, care and management
- Catching horses, grooming horses and saddling horses
- Trail riding on more than 1 ride per day and up to 3 rides per day at the trail barn
- Trail riding on multiple rides in a high intensity environment with hundreds of riders, when taking horses to the Pavilion to run short trail rides
- Communicate with staff and the public with tact, clarity and patience, always being professional and appropriate
- Communicating with horses appropriately and tactfully
- Perform barn maintenance such as mending fencing, putting up panels etc.
- Cleaning barn duties such as cleaning stalls, picking up manure in tying areas
- Maintaining and cleaning tack which includes soaping and oiling if needed
- Keeping a clean work environment with picking up trash, sweeping, raking, organizing, tidying, trash removal, etc.
- Assisting in general upkeep of office and customer areas
- Having a good sense of direction

Initial _____

- Mounting and dismounting guests according to rules set forth by managers
- Typical Workday often begins at 7:30am and ends around 5pm
- Capable of being responsible for tracking hours using a time clock, if you don't clock in and out, you don't get paid
- Always dressing according to Attire Regulations set forth by managers
- Having a good, clean, sense of humor
- Assisting in paperwork duties in the office when needed
- No employee dogs are permitted on the ranch
- No employee family members or friends are permitted to sit in vehicles or stay in the office while employee works long shifts or hours
- No employee personal horses are permitted on the ranch

It is important that applicants recognize and remember that applying to work with horses in any facility, is and can be dangerous. Rules and regulations are set forth to be followed by all employees, yet there is still the possibility of scenarios that occur from unforeseen circumstances, as horses are inherently unpredictable flight and fright prey animals.

Under Virginia Law, an equine activity sponsor or an equine professional shall not be liable for an injury to or death of a participant engaged in an equine activity resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §3.1-796.132.

I, the undersigned, fully understand, have read, will respect and follow through with the Wrangler Job Description and Expectations, listed pages 1-3.

Employee Print

Sign

Date

