

## Barn Tidiness:

- 1.) When you are on chores always make sure that when you sweep you do so THOROUGHLY. Dirt, dust and hay accumulate very fast. It makes a HUGE difference if we can keep ahead of dirt build-up. Please do not leave empty bottles, wrappers, coffee cups and personal papers in the barn. Please use the trash cans.

- 2.) When you sweep, do NOT sweep dirt out through the doorways. Use a wheel-barrow or muck-tub to carry it to the manure pile. If you sweep through the doors it prevents the barn doors from closing properly, as in this picture. In the winter it makes a home for little creatures we do not want.



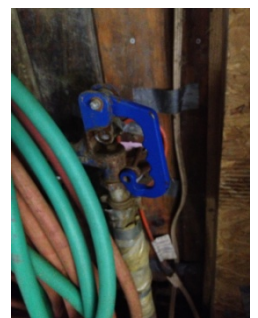
- 3.) Also, make sure you sweep under stall doors because hay and shavings get stuck under there. It should be clean to allow the door to close easily.



- 4.) When a mess is made around a hay bale, do NOT sweep it back to the bale because what you are sweeping back is the dirt and dust. Instead, sweep loose hay into a separate pile, for feeding in the paddocks and sweep the dirt and dust away to be dumped outside.



- 5.) Do not get water on the floor in front of the hoses. The concrete is very slippery when wet. If you rinse something use a bucket and do so outside or use the warm room. Water on the floor becomes especially hazardous in the winter because it WILL freeze. The hose also leaks if you do not push the blue handle down all the way, so make sure that when you are done using the hose, it is not dripping.



- 6.) After you are done riding your horse, clean the dirt, manure and hair from the aisle you tacked up in. It should be swept and all tack and grooming supplies put away!



- 7.) When you hang your helmets, hang them by the short buckle and the open part of the helmet facing in to the wall so the birds do not poop in them!



## **Blankets:**

-Blankets should be put on the horses in the right weather. They cannot always be worn in the winter because the horses need to grow their winter coats. If it is below 50 and supposed to be constant rain/ snow/sleet all or most of the day, blanket them!

-Each blanket has a tag on the inside with the horse's name that it belongs to.

**-To put the blankets on:** The buckles in the front buckles **(1)** of the blanket should NOT be undone for they are correctly fitted for each horse and constantly undoing them will cause wear and tear. Slip the blankets over the horse's heads and pull the blanket all the way down by the butt flap **(2)** over their butt. Next reach under their belly and take one of the belly straps **(3)** and fasten it onto the opposite hook. **(4)** Do the same with the other strap. You will see that the hooks are angled to crisscross the belly straps. Then go to the back of the horse and reach between the horses back legs and take one on the rear leg straps **(5)** bring it around the leg and attach it to the hook **(6)**. Take the other leg strap the same way and loop it **through** the first leg strap and attach it to its hook.



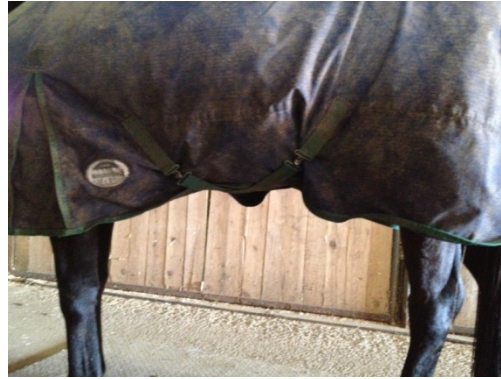




**NOTE:** Several of the rear leg clips tend to stick open so double check these clasps when you put the blanket on. If they are stuck open, take a pair of scissors or a hoof pick and pop the clasp closed.



**This is what the blanket should look like on the horse...**



The whole blanket on the horse.



The belly straps crossed

Rear leg straps looped through each other.

**-To clean the blankets:** Do **not** use any water on them for two reasons. One, if the blankets are needed the next day, they will not be dry enough to put on the horses. Two, every time the blankets get wet, they get a little less water resistant. Lay the blanket on the ground when they have dried and use a hard brush **(7)** or broom **(8)** to brush the dirt off of them.

**-To take the blankets off:** Undo the straps looped around the back legs. Then undo the belly straps. Once these are all undone, take the back of the blanket that goes over the butt and bring it over the rear, up the back and bring the whole blanket over the horses head **without** undoing the front buckles.



-When the blankets have been on the horses in the rain all day, they will be soaked. After you have taken them off, hang them by the buckles on the feed door of an empty stall and push the door closed so it is not jutting out.





## Folding Blankets

When blankets are dry, you can hang them on the blanket bar on the stall door. This is the way they should be folded...

- 1.) Lay the blanket in the floor on its side.



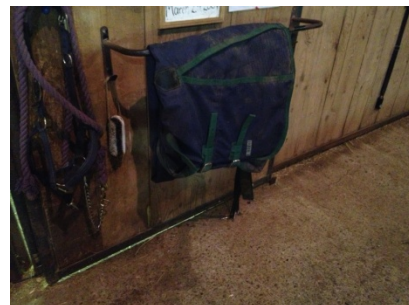
- 2.) Fold it in half the long way.



- 3.) Next you fold it end to end.



- 4.) Then you fold the ends one more time.



- 5.) Then hang the blanket on the blanket bar on the stall door neatly.