The Gelding Project: *Helping the Unwanted Horse 1 Stallion at a Time*

The Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition, the Minnesota Horse Council and the Animal Humane Society in cooperation with the Minnesota Association of Equine Practitioners are launching *The Gelding Project*. This program is designed as a key step to reduce the number of unwanted horses in Minnesota. The first aspect of the project, *Education Earns Stallions to Geldings*, will encourage horse owners to choose to make stallions into geldings through education and financial incentives. An interested horse owner who enrolls in the program will be eligible for a voucher to cover the cost of castration surgery by a participating veterinarian, once the owner attends 8 horse health management educational sessions.

Here’s how the program works:

1. Get an official voucher at the MN Horse Expo, from participating veterinarians, the Minnesota Horse Council or members of the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition (more information listed on [www.mnhorsecouncil.org](http://www.mnhorsecouncil.org)). Vouchers cost $5.

2. Attend 8 horse health educational sessions, including:
   a. General Horse Care
   b. Reproduction
   c. Nutrition
   d. Facilities/Manure Management
   e. Equine Dentistry
   f. Vaccinations and/or De-worming
   g. Horse Behavior
   h. Lecture on the Unwanted Horse or volunteer 2 hours at a Horse Rescue

3. Contact a participating veterinarian to arrange castration of the stallion
   a. The stallion must be halter broke
   b. The stallion must have 2 descended testicles
   c. Farm calls are not covered by the voucher

4. The voucher covers the cost of castration, anesthesia, post operative antibiotic and tetanus vaccination or anti-toxin.

5. Complete The Gelding Project evaluation before you leave the clinic.

6. You must be at least 18 years old and a Minnesota resident to participate.