

Horses:

- Current herd stands at 21. No overall head count change since the last report, however:
 - We euthanized “Jazz” on February 15.
 - We have one horse on trial. “Mia” is a 16 year old pony mare.
 - “Arthur” is currently on lay-up due to a tendonitis issue in his right hind leg.
- The horses will receive their annual wellness exams and dentistry during our short April break week.
- Horse workload efficiency for the third quarter of the Academic program 2021-22 (January through March 2022):
 - Maximum available horse usage (all horses working at their maximum availability) was 2,492 units over 14 weeks.
 - Actual available horse usage (this is maximum less unsound or unwell horses) was 2,382 units, 95% of maximum.
 - Actual utilized horse usage was 1,032 units, this equals 43%* of actual available usage.
In our largest program operation years (pre 2018), our horse usage utilization was frequently at 80-85%. The reduction in program size (both intentional in fall of 2019 and by circumstance since the onset of the COVID pandemic) since that time has been responsible for the lower utilization rates even despite a herd size reduction of 15% in the same time frame.

For your reference, herd utilization stats:

Winter semester 2021 = 53%**

Spring semester 2021 = 53%**

Summer semester 2021 = 64%**

Fall semester 2022 = 66%**

*This especially low utilization rates includes the period in January when we temporarily closed and then resumed program at a modified level for a total of 4 weeks as a result of the COVID omicron variant.

**These numbers are not representative of real potential, numbers were greatly limited by COVID restrictions/concerns/closings and fallout.

Staff:

- Caretaker position remains open. We have had some interest, but no candidates that were right for the position.

Building & Grounds:

- Several projects and upgrades will be completed the week of April 18th during our short program break (see below for more details).
In addition to the large capital projects in this year’s budget, we will also be completing removal of several insect damaged Ash trees and other tree pruning as well as repair of the front field that sustained damage during the parking for the Holiday Market last fall.
- Collaboration with The Duck River Garden Club is underway to renovate the perennial plants in the Legacy Garden to include more native species that are beneficial to pollinators.

21-22 approved capital projects:

- Air Conditioning mechanicals upgrade – replacing our air handlers and condensers that are 20 years old. We should see energy savings when upgrading to more efficient systems.
Scheduled for install the week of April 18.
- Roof and windows at the caretaker's house – current in their 25th year, these are due for upgrades since most are not functioning correctly or at all (windows) and the roof should be replaced before it is problematic.
Both scheduled for install the week of April 18.
- Outdoor arena fencing and footing surface replacement – last remodeled in 2007, the footing is past its 10 year life expectancy and is not responding to maintenance dragging (becoming hard packed and very dusty) while the wood fencing boards are buckling and posts are deteriorating.
To be completed during long program breaks either in June or August.
- Sidewalk installation – outside the classroom door and the small door in the lounge; will enhance safety with surfaces that will be more easily maintained during winter weather.
To be completed once temperatures are appropriate for curing concrete.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Sundmacker
Equine Operations Director