



Hurston Dressage and Eventing Environmental Policy

Hurston Dressage and Eventing recognises the need for everyone to do their part for the environment. There are plenty of reports and studies currently in circulation that explain the damage that the equestrian industry is doing to the environment. However, there is plenty that we can do to mitigate our impact on our wonderful world – from correct muckheap management, to only buying from feed companies that adhere to an environmental policy themselves. We have produced our own environmental policy, so our customers can be assured that through choosing to stable their horse with us, they're investing in a greener future for all of us.

Muckheap management:

- All muckheaps are to be more than 10m away from a water source, to avoid effluent contamination
- The yard muckheap is taken away at least once a week, and the field muckheap is emptied fully at least once every 12 months
- Organic, degradable material only is to be put on the muckheaps – no plastics, metals or other man-made materials are to be put onto the muckheaps

Grazing management:

- There are to be no more than 16 horses on the property at any one time, to protect the quality of the grazing, and ensure optimal management
- Horses will be rotated to different paddocks to avoid over-grazing wherever possible.
- Any fertilisers used will be suitable for the soil (according to the soil testing undertaken in summer 2022), will be specifically designed for equine grazing, and will be free of any chemicals that are known to be harmful to the environment
- Manure will be regularly removed from paddocks (minimum of once a week)
- When horses are moved onto a new paddock, the grazed paddock will be over-seeded if necessary, fertilised, spring harrowed and rolled

Parasite management:

- All horses on the property are, as a minimum, required to have a worm count done and/or wormed every twelve weeks, according to the owner's wishes/advice from a vet

Recycling:

- The yard has a large Biffa recycling bin available, for all dry recyclables. This includes bedding wrappers, feed sacks and supplement tubs

Suppliers:

- The yard makes every effort to ensure that all brands of feed used have a robust environmental policy in place, and are investing in a sustainable future for the equestrian industry
- The yard will not use feeds that are made from GM crops
- The yard uses a local hay and bedding supplier, who ensure that their products are made in the UK
- As far as possible, all consumables (loo roll, cleaning products etc) are of a sustainable nature and are bought from companies that have a robust environmental policy

Energy:

- All energy for the property is either supplied by Octopus, a company that only produces renewable energy and invests heavily in sustainability in the energy sector, or from solar means