



THE MHIB REPORT

The following is an update on some of the current activities of the Maryland Horse Industry Board.

Maryland Horse Park

Following the announcement by Chairman James B. Steele on March 13 that the Maryland Horse Industry Board would not enter a bid to the United States Navy to locate the Maryland Horse Park at the former Naval Academy Dairy Farm in Gambrills, the Board has decided to meet over the next few months to decide on the next steps towards the establishment of a Horse Park.

The MHIB remains committed to the project, is intent on seeing it through to completion, and will continue to post relevant information regarding the project on marylandhorsepark.com. The Maryland Horse Park is a dream of Maryland equestrians that will benefit the state as an environmentally sensitive model of public open space protection, also providing needed facilities and economic impact to the industry as well as to local and state economies.

License Applications

The MHIB has released license applications for the 2008 fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2007. If you are a current license holder and are still in operation, you must renew your license as your current license expires on June 30, 2007. If you are in need of a license, you should apply now before you are prosecuted by the MHIB. There have been over 500 facilities licensed in the 2007 fiscal year. To obtain a copy of the license application, contact Tonya Kendrick at 410-841-5861. If you would like to see a list of the facilities that are licensed to operate in Maryland, visit www.marylandhorseindustry.org.

Grants

As of May 1, 2007, all grant applications that have been received by the MHIB are currently under review by the grant evalua-

tion committee. Decisions on grant awards will be made by July of 2007, and funds will be distributed (subject to availability) through December of 2007.

2007 HORSE INDUSTRY SURVEY RESULTS

In the January issue of *The Equiery*, a survey of the industry was distributed. The intent of the survey was to have you, as members of the equine industry, tell the Board what you would like to see it doing to serve you. Some of the Board's current

projects were listed for ranking, and a couple of specific questions were asked. Finally, you were invited to provide input about other activities on which you feel the Board should be focusing. The following is an overall breakdown of your responses.

For the complete results of the survey – along with a sector-by-sector industry breakdown – visit www.marylandhorseindustry.org.

Results of the 2007 Maryland Horse Industry Survey

Survey Start Date: January 1, 2007

Survey End Date: February 26, 2007

Project	Rank	Scale of Importance (1= Not at all important, 5 = Extremely Important)
Maryland Horse Park & AEC	2	4.36
International Animal Import/ Export Center	10	3.69
Grant Funding Nonprofit Equine Orgs.	9	4.00
Developing Public Equine Facilities in each County	4	4.33
Increasing Access to Horse Trails	2	4.36
Eq. Emergency Notification Network	5	4.28
Breeding Incentives and Purses for all Eq. Sports	7	4.26
Lowering Insurance Rates	1	4.39
Increasing Access to Agricultural Programs, Assistance and Funding	8	4.23
MD Equine Census and Economic Impact Study	5	4.28

Number of Surveys Received	195
Reported People Represented	Minimum 1649
	Maximum 45628

Type of Industry Involvement	Breeding	48 %
	Recreational Riding	59 %
	Racing	41 %
	Horse Showing	46 %
	Service Provider	15 %
	Other	17 %

Familiar with the MHIB	Yes	83 %
	No	17 %
	No Response	1 %

Support Activities of the MHIB	Yes	86 %
	No	3 %
	No Response	11 %

Support an Increase of the Feed Assessment	Yes	55 %
	No Opinion	27 %
	No	14 %
	No Response	3 %

How much of an increase would you support?	No Increase	27 %	Average	\$0.23
	1-2 cents	23 %		
	3-4 cents	5 %		
	5 cents	29 %		
	>5 cents	7 %		
	No Response	9 %		