

Little Creek Farm Conservancy, Inc. 2020 Annual Report



Butch the Mule greets Boarder, Robin Hitchcock

From the President...

2020! Our hearts and best wishes are with each of you as we navigate Little Creek Horse Farm & Park's closure and limited public access. While a reopening date has yet to be determined, we have many positives to announce! Membership is up, a successful 2020 Horsefest Online Auction brought in over \$5000, a Tree Fundraising Campaign raised over \$2000 (with a 100% match in the works!), the online Horse Park Blog and Creative Gallery and Contest were introduced, and a successful grant submission for \$50,000 towards County approved projects was just announced.

LCFC says "Thank You" to the Dekalb County Board of Commissioners; the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs; Park Pride; Atlanta Riding Academy; Mark's Riding School; Stride Ahead, Inc; and the entire community that provides support towards LCFC's stewardship efforts through volunteerism and donations.

We look forward to greeting friends, old and new, when the park re-opens. See you soon!

Tamara Dillard
President





Little Creek
Farm
Conservancy
Leadership

Partnering with [DeKalb County Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs](#), the mission of Little Creek Farm Conservancy, Inc. is to promote the stewardship of Little Creek Horse Farm and Park for equine activities, including educational and recreational outreach programs for the general public.

BOARD

President, Tamara Dillard

president@littlecreekfarmconservancy.org

Vice President, Rene Iverson

vicepresident@littlecreekfarmconservancy.org

Treasurer, Peggy Berg

treasurer@littlecreekfarmconservancy.org

Secretary, Lynn Leonard

secretary@littlecreekfarmconservancy.org

At-Large Community Liaison, Bobbi Woolwine

outreach@littlecreekfarmconservancy.org

COMMITTEE Leaders

Membership: Jane Donofrio

Volunteers: Karen Maloney / Tamara Dillard

Hands on Horses: Rene Iverson

Pony Rides: Rene Iverson

Communications: Karen Maloney

Safety & Security: Peggy Berg, Anne Preston,
Chris Lobkowitz

Environmental Committee: Bobbi Woolwine

Trees: Dana McDaniel

Recycling: Jenny McQuiston

Fly Predator Control: Nancy Scott

Membership

Thanks to **125** members for their support through this extraordinary year. Boarders, instructors, riding students, parents, community members, volunteers, staff and others keep the “neigh in the neighborhood.”

To join and learn about the many ways to enjoy Little Creek please visit:

www.LittleCreekFarmConservancy.org

2021 Member Meetings (virtual!):

Feb 13 / May 8 / Aug 14 / Nov 6



Icelandic Horses Grazing in the Shadow of Hekla, Iceland: Kelli Lee
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

Hands on Horses

HOH is joyfully hosted by LCFC volunteers, *through appointment only!* Interest forms are at www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org/handsonhorses/

Sessions are customized with:

- Discussion of horse grooming and care
- Review of riding equipment (tack)
- Field observation of horse behavior
- Take-home craft (paintable horseshoe & more)

2020's season opened late with masks, taking temps, physical distancing and lots of hand sanitizer.

2020 Hands on Horses by the Numbers:

- **22** participants over three months (Oct-Dec)
- **\$230** in donations
- **5** Horse volunteers: Al, Justin, Rosie the Pony, Tanner & Sunshine
- **3** Human volunteers
- **40+** Human volunteer hours



Bundled and masked, this group loved meeting Sunshine and Tanner on a chilly December day.

Volunteer Program

We look forward to getting back to normal, interacting with volunteer groups like these 4H students displaying their sweeping prowess.

Armed with Covid guidelines, a few outdoor volunteer projects were accomplished in 2020.

The Sunset Pavilion received a bright coat of stain, landscaping efforts beautified the back of the barn and the ongoing fight against invasive privet and ivy continues.



Pre-Pandemic -
January 2020
4H Students from
DeKalb County



Fall 2020 - Volunteers making it pretty
at Little Creek!

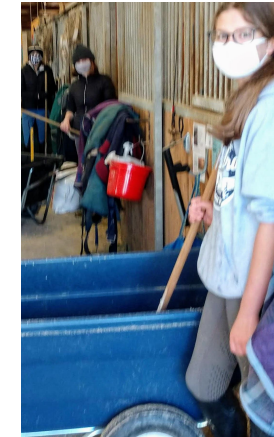


Pandemic Support

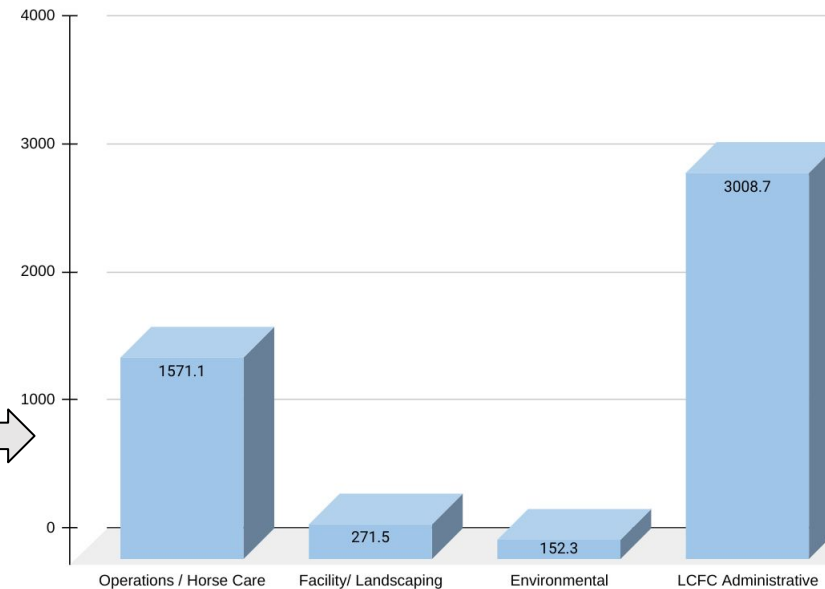
Dekalb County Management requested targeted operational / horse care tasks from approved volunteers, led by assigned County staff and LCFC Captains, to aid staff.

Captains (mainly, experienced riders and Program staff) and approved volunteers have been stepping up since March to support Little Creek with designated tasks.

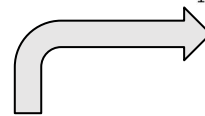
The County, the Community and the Conservancy say **Thank You** for helping keep the staff healthy and the barn open to the extent that it is.



Total Volunteer Hours By Activity



Pandemic Support



Environmental Committee

Environmental projects enhance the Park and educate the community about the value of green space and wildlife.

The Park is home to more than horses - deer, beaver, birds of prey - and other native wildlife are plentiful.

Initiatives:

- LCFC-Georgia Audubon Society partnered on a Volunteer Ivy/Privet Removal Day in December 2020.
- Captain Shane Jones and his crew from Dekalb County Fire Station #9 assisted.
- Georgia Audubon Society led a guided bird walk for participants.
- **60 Species Observed at Little Creek**
<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L7492764>



December 2020's Invasives Removal Day with Fire Station #9

Audubon Site Restoration Grant

While the pandemic has slowed this particular project down - some 2020 progress occurred, including removal of invasive species and installation of native plants in meadow.

Thanks to the Audubon helpers who installed...

- Schizachyrium scoparium (Little Bluestem)
- Andropogon virginicus (Broomsedge)
- Cephalanthus occidentalis (Button Bush)
- Rudbeckia laciniata (Cutleaf Coneflower)
- Helianthus angustifolium (Narrow Leaf Sunflower)
- Chasmanthium latifolium (River Oats)
- Solidago chapmanii, (Chapman's Goldenrod)
- Asclepias incarnata (Swamp Milkweed)
- Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)
- Monarda fistulosa (Wild Bergamont)
- Symphotrichum laevis, (Smooth Aster)
- Baptisia australis (False Indigo)
- Rudbeckia fulgida (Blackeyed Susan)
- Pityopsis graminifolia (Grassleafed golden aster)
- Eupatorium perfoliatum (Boneset)
- Solidago nemoralis (Eastern Gray Goldenrod)
- Liatris spicata (Blazing star)
- Parthenium integrifolium (Wild Quinine)



Morning on the Farm: Sebastian Lamb
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

2020 Creative Contest

Ending 2020 with beauty and inspiration, the first annual creative contest brought art inspired by horses and nature to the Little Creek Farm Conservancy Creative Gallery.

Art from the contest is used throughout this Annual Report, with attribution.

See all the amazing entries at:

www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org/creative-contest-gallery/



Woodland and Creek: Christine Wu
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

Holiday Traditions

One tradition LCFC was able to continue during the holiday season of 2020 was collecting for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. The community generously donated many amazing gifts.

To aid in the spirit of the holidays, Panda wore her antlers and Vic adorned his stall with a horse head wreath.



Lucky to have such a generous community.



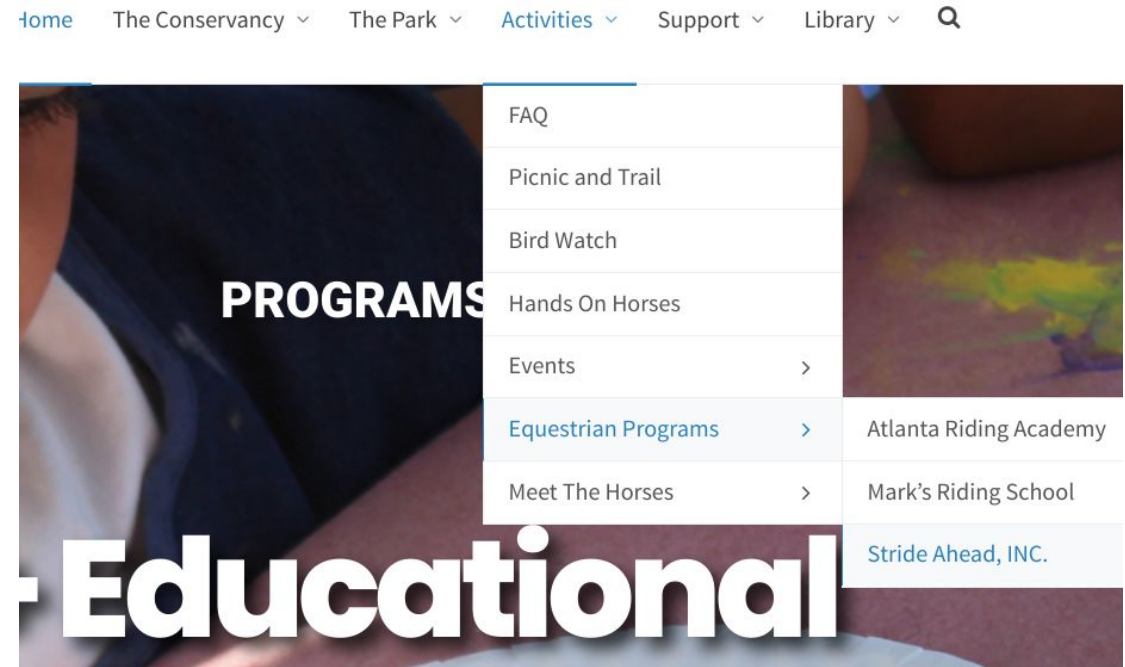
Equestrian Programs

The Equestrian Programs are an important way to bring the public into the Park, and LCFC is proud to support these programs as part of our community building mission.

Riding Lessons and Equestrian Assisted Therapy are provided through independently owned programs. Horse rentals and trail rides are not offered here.

As of publication, riding programs have stopped accepting new students until Dekalb County lifts COVID restrictions.

For Program details and contact info:
www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org



Under the Activities menu on the website...

Atlanta Riding Academy

Atlanta Riding Academy offers hunt seat riding lessons and promotes horsemanship education at Little Creek Horse Farm & Park.

In 2020 Atlanta Riding:

- Maintained a client roster of **38** students and lessors
- Taught an average of **34** lessons per week
- Participated in a video demonstration for the Fall Festival
- Created a socially distant client horse show
- Worked with LCFC to raise **\$2,285** for new trees at the Park
- Welcomed a new horse named Hi Jinx, a thoroughbred/saddlebred cross gelding



Atlanta Riding Horses - Jinx, Vic and Ink BFFs: Courtney Anderson
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

Mark's Riding School

Mark Jaglarz offers 40+ years of professional experience with English riding, jumping and horsemanship. All levels participate in private or group lessons.

2020 stats for Mark's Riding School:

- Current roster: **30** students
- Weekly average: **35-40** lessons per week
- Added **2** new lesson horses: Rosie the sweet Pony (currently in training to become a superb lesson pony) and Norman, the talented Thoroughbred.
- **\$200** was raised for Cancer Research this year, despite Quadrille practice being on hold.



Rosie gets used to the Park, led by Mark Jaglarz.

Stride Ahead

When COVID hit in mid-March, Stride Ahead had to shut down their therapeutic riding lessons indefinitely.

While not able to conduct those lessons, thanks to a grant from The Arthur Blank Family Foundation, Stride Ahead began stress relief sessions for front line medical workers and first responders.

In addition to these stress relief sessions, Stride Ahead was able to conduct stress relief sessions for veterans thanks to a grant from The Evelyn Foundation. These sessions take place in the grass arena and follow all CDC safety protocols.

Visit www.strideahead.org for details.

New Therapeutic Riding Program horse:

- Volunteer Horse - Cupid

Stress Relief

for COVID-19 Frontline Workers

No charge for verified frontline workers (medical professionals and first responders) thanks to a grant from the Blank Family Foundation.

Have you or a loved one been serving on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Stride Ahead is now providing a unique experience for COVID-19 frontline workers to help deal with the elevated stress brought about by the pandemic.



Reconnect, Reflect

Working with our licensed professionals and equine participants will experience and mindful interaction

Stress Relief for Veterans

Scholarships available courtesy of the Evelyn Foundation.

Are You or a Loved One a Veteran?

Stride Ahead is now providing a unique experience for veterans to help deal with stress in their everyday life.

De-stress, Reconnect, Reflect

Veterans will have the opportunity to unwind and chill-out by spending time with our horses in a calm, supportive environment along with an equine specialist and mental health professional.



Financial Results

In 2020 LCFC invested **\$10,719** in improvements to the barn, pastures, and paddocks and farm supplies, in addition to volunteer contributions of time, energy and materials.

LCFC had revenues of **\$25,661**. Net proceeds will be invested in DeKalb County's unique Little Creek Horse Farm & Park.

Little Creek Farm Conservancy, Inc.

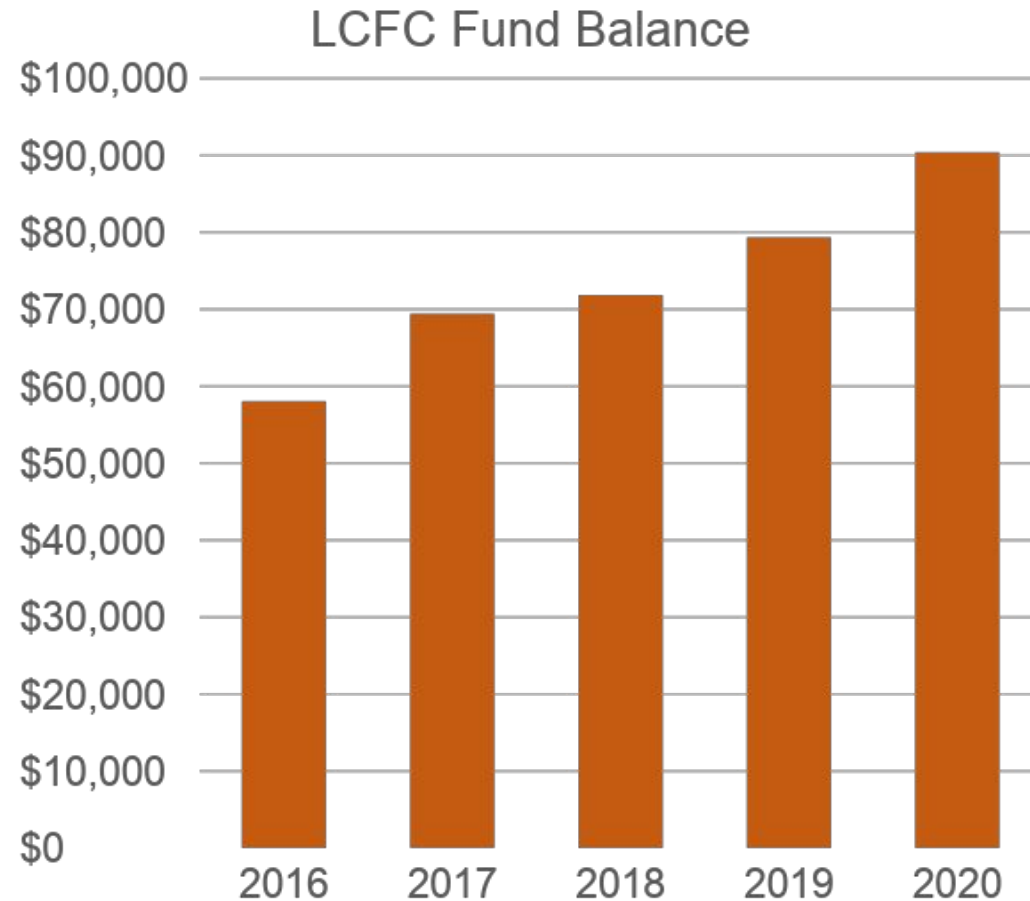
Statement of Activity

January - December 2020

	<u>Total</u>
Revenue	
4100 Donations/Sponsorships	13,990.42
4200 Membership Dues	3,246.00
4300 Gate/Tickets/Fees	196.00
4500 Project Contributions	2,765.15
4700 Vendors/Auction	4,761.31
4800 Other Revenue	701.87
Total Revenue	\$ 25,660.75
Expenditures	
5100 Administration	2,855.88
5150 Bank & Merchant Fees	172.11
5200 Contractors/Labor	5,770.00
5300 Donations from LCFC	200.00
5500 Marketing & Communications	769.46
5700 Project Materials	3,029.77
5800 Supplies	1,920.16
Total Expenditures	\$ 14,717.38
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 10,943.37

Financial Position

- LCFC has **\$91,242** in funds for projects and matching grants to support Little Creek Horse Farm & Park, as of December 31, 2020.
- As of publication, LCFC has been awarded access to a \$50,000 matching grant from Park Pride, to use on Dekalb County approved projects at this Park in 2021.



Horsefest 2020: Online Auction

The October auction that replaced our largest annual fundraiser was a resounding success, and LCFC has many to thank: Donors - individuals and businesses, volunteers making everything come together, and of course the Bidders.

By the Numbers:

- **3** Days
- **55** Items
- **64** Bidders
- **\$5,324** raised



Little Creek Farm
CONSERVANCY

We need your help!

Our beloved annual **HorseFest is going virtual**
and we need your dollars and donations.



Online HorseFest Auction
October 1-3, 2020

Give now to support capital improvements for our beloved neighborhood gem.

Make a donation:
Rene Iverson
vicepresident@littlecreekfarmconservancy.com

Where will the funds go?
Creation of LCFC Visitor and Volunteer Welcome Center
Safety and Security features addressing fire and police services access
ADA access to the grass arena and annex
Safety and Directional Signage



littlecreekfarmconservancy.org/online-horsefest-auction

Why Donate?

The Conservancy is 100% volunteer run, and a 501c(3) non-profit.

Funds donated through LCFC stay in this Park, for:

- Capital Improvements
- Community Programs
- Events

For more information, and to donate visit:

www.LittleCreekFarmConservancy.org



Tanner Makes a Good Pillow - Nancy Scott
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

Shop and Give

Make Little Creek Farm Conservancy your preferred charitable organization to receive Amazon Smile, Kroger Community Rewards and Paypal Giving funds. Each program contributes a small percentage of your purchases to LCFC.

2020 Amazon Smile, Kroger Rewards, and Paypal Giving: **\$192**

“Shop and Give” today....learn how here:
www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org/shopgive/



SKS
19

Sebastian: A Retired Racehorse - Susan Soloman
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

Friends of Little Creek Horse Farm & Park

Little Creek Farm Conservancy is proud to be an established Friends of the Park (FOP) group through Park Pride, and enjoys the many resources, workshops, and matching grant opportunities they provide.

Many green space work days benefit from the toolbank at Park Pride, and workshops provide energy and creative solution building for our team.

As of publication, we are proud to announce the successful 2020 Community Building Grant bid. These grants requires partnership and approval from Dekalb County Recreations, Parks and Cultural Affairs.



Better Together...

The Conservancy thanks the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs Management team; Director Chuck Ellis, Division Manager David Flaherty, Barn Supervisor Jamie Hodges, and the barn staff.

As an example of the partnership of LCFC and Dekalb County...LCFC created a Horsey 101 video at the County's request that the **Dekalb County Virtual Summer Camp** was able to share with over 900 children (*thank you to Atlanta Riding Academy students and horses for their assistance*).



Together: Penny Buelow
2020 LCFC Creative Contest

Little Creek Advisory Committee

Since 2019, this working group organized by the County has assisted in analyzing changes & requests to ensure the success of Park initiatives.

Representatives from Park Management, LCFC, resident equestrian programs, boarders, and neighbors, all have a seat at this table.

Working to improve the experience for everyone at the Park, here are project examples:

- *Professional Phone Script for Park Office*
- *Project Ideas and Review*
- *COVID-19 Volunteer discussions & design*
- *Collaborative discussions about arenas, trees, fencing, rodent control and much else.*

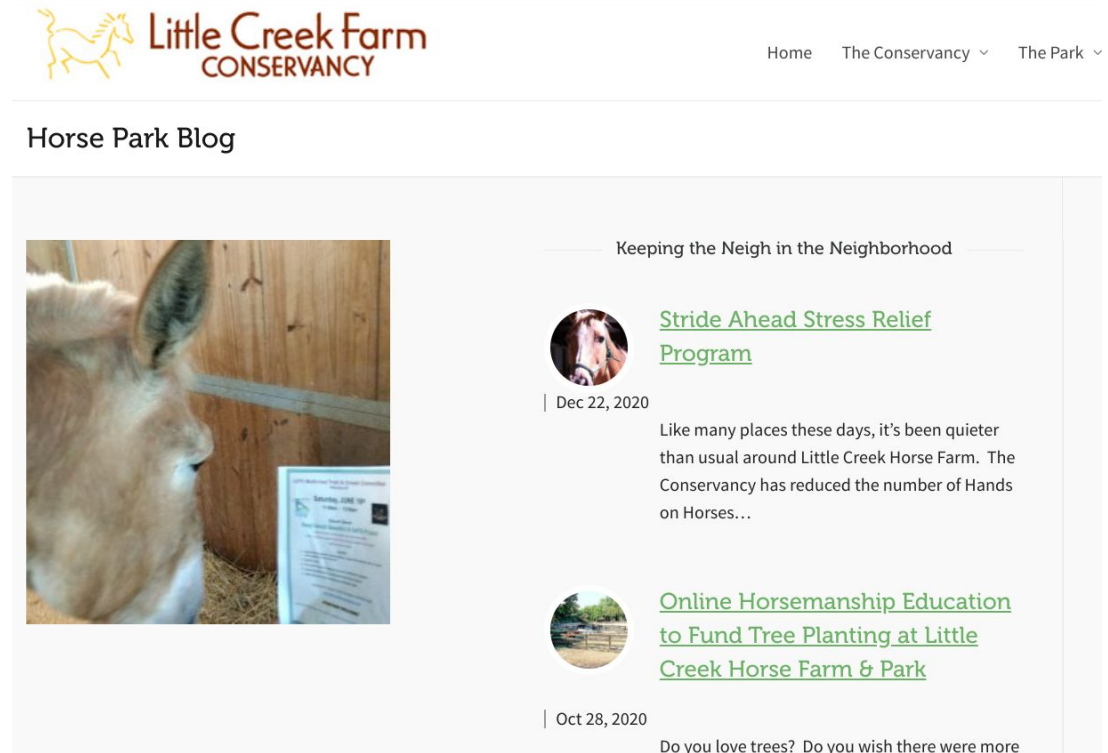


2020 Paddock Fence Repair Project

LCFC Online

The Conservancy is dedicated to keeping the Park's community informed through social media and a new blog!

- 10,268 - unique visitors to website
www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org
- 2524 - Facebook Fans
www.facebook.com/littlecreekfarmconservancy
- 184 - Instagram Fans
#instalcfc
www.instagram.com/instalcfc
- 908 - Email Subscribers
Sign Up on the [Conservancy Website!](http://www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org)



The screenshot shows the website header with the logo and navigation links. Below is the 'Horse Park Blog' section with a featured article titled 'Keeping the Neigh in the Neighborhood' dated Dec 22, 2020. The article includes a photo of a horse's head and discusses a stress relief program. A second article titled 'Online Horsemanship Education to Fund Tree Planting at Little Creek Horse Farm & Park' is dated Oct 28, 2020.

Check out the new blog....

Sign Me UP

Stay connected with what's going on at Little Creek Horse Farm & Park by signing up for email updates at www.littlecreekfarmconservancy.org.

- Check out the [LCFC Calendar](#)
 - Member meetings
 - Volunteer work days
 - Public events
 - Committee meetings
 - Hands on Horses
- Become a [Member](#) and support the Park
- [Register](#) for a Hands On Horses program

