

## ***Educational Programs***

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Cricket Hill Farm has been in business at this location since 1978. Educational programs have been offered since 2000.

Experienced, professional instructors.

Trained school horses appropriate for both beginners and experienced students.

Outstanding horse care provided 7 days a week by dedicated professionals.

Year-round activities, rain or shine, with indoor and outdoor arenas and excellent footing. Trails on over 200 acres.

Students may explore career opportunities in grooming, stable management, riding and training, grounds maintenance, and horticulture.

**Educational programs for Pine Plains students**, developed by Cricket Hill in support of the Agriculture and Animal Science Department and FFA, include Equine Classroom, Riding, and Horsemanship. (See individual program descriptions.) Some classes organized as field trips by school. All activities available on individual basis.

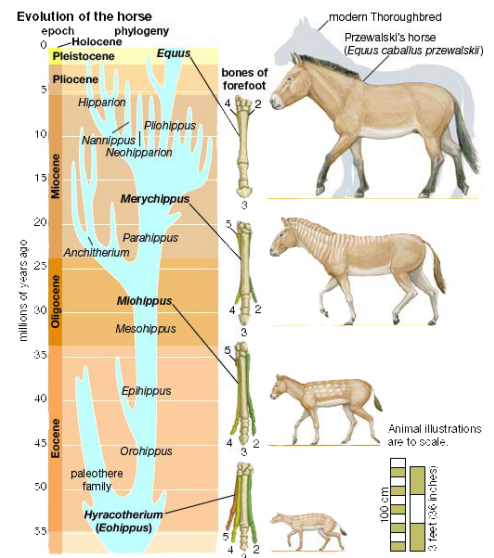


# Equine Classroom

Classes may be tailored for different ages and experience.  
Available at no cost to Pine Plains students.  
Email: [staff@crickethillfarm.org](mailto:staff@crickethillfarm.org)  
[www.crickethillfarm.org](http://www.crickethillfarm.org)

*1-3 Available at the Farm or in your Classroom:*

- 1. The History of the Horse** – When was the earliest ancestor of the horse? Where was it found? What happened to early horses over the epochs as the earth changed? Why do horses look like they do now?
- 2. From Whiskers to Tail** – What's so special about the equine digestive system? A fun session with life size models. Assembly of the complete system during class!
- 3. What's in YOUR Feed Bucket?** – Five building blocks of equine nutrition with samples to study. Plus the importance of forage for a non-ruminant herbivore.



*4-5 Available only at the Farm; Horses required for these Classes:*

- 4. Equine Health** – How can you tell if a horse is healthy or sick? Learn to use your eyes, a stethoscope, a thermometer, finger pressure and a watch to help you know when to call the veterinarian and what to tell them.
- 5. Good Grooming** – A shiny coat, tangle free hair and clean hooves only comes with lots of "elbow grease" and the correct tools. Plus learn how the changing daylight affects hair growth.



# Horsemanship

Taught by experienced instructors at Cricket Hill.  
Available at no cost to Pine Plains students.  
Call 518-329-6166 or Email: [staff@crickethillfarm.org](mailto:staff@crickethillfarm.org)  
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Learning horsemanship skills helps horse lovers and owners alike achieve high standards of horse care and management, safely and happily!

**Showing in Horsemanship** - Many horse shows, including the FFA Fair, offer unmounted horsemanship classes. Exhibitors present their equine partners "in hand", and are judged on the appearance of both the animal and themselves, as well as their ability to show the animal through a pattern, specifically:

- Grooming: a healthy horse is clean and free of stains, dirt, and mane/tail tangles. The correct grooming tools and lots of "elbow" grease insure a shiny coat.
- Condition: proper nutrition and exercise keep horses fit and healthy.
- Tack: must be kept clean and in good condition.
- Exhibitor Appearance: safe, neat, clean and correct clothing.
- Handling Skills: leading, halting, trotting, and "setting" up your horse for inspection.



**Horsemanship at Cricket Hill.** Each participant is matched with a suitable Cricket Hill horse or pony to learn and practice with. Students who complete the course may show at the FFA fair with their equine partner. Horse owners are welcome to join and may bring their own horse.

Taught year-round, rain or shine. For mounted activities, see "Riding" Program.



# Riding

Taught by experienced instructors.  
Scholarships available for Pine Plains students.  
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### **Riding is a lifetime sport!**

Learning to ride promotes independence, responsibility, development of motor skills and empathy. And, it's fun!

**Beginners** - Riders begin with the instructor holding a lead line so they learn to walk, stop, and steer in confidence and under control. Our horses and ponies are safe, trained Schoolmasters, appropriately chosen for the student's level. Learn how to groom and get the pony ready, too.

**Experienced Riders** - Students who have ridden before come for an assessment lesson so we can see your skills and determine suitable mounts. We teach English riding and jumping for competition or pleasure. Special lessons for trail riders. If you have your own horse, trailer in for your lesson.

Riding lessons are available 6 days a week, Tuesday through Sunday, year round, rain or shine. Adults and children, all ages, all stages.

Cricket Hill offers Saddle Club during the school year and Camps in the summer, too.

Scholarships are available for Pine Plains students.

We're here to help you.  
Call on us!

