



What about those horses?

By F.Jay Harrell © 2023

Rainbow Bend is either blessed or cursed by some of the Virginia range wild horses. My goal here is to get some facts out there for everyone.

The horses are managed and controlled by The Wild Horse connection (WHC) and only the WHC. The WHC is a private 501c(3) non-profit all volunteer group that manages the horses for the State of Nevada.

Here is some law for ya. It is illegal to feed the horses or harass the horses. In fact, it is dangerous and illegal to interact with them in any way. Recently there was a picture of a three to five-year-old little girl feeding or patting one of the horses on the nose. Evidently, there was a parent standing back to get the endearing cute photo. What that adult apparently didn't know was that the little girl could have lost a hand in a blink or be killed in an instant! Enjoy our horses from a distance. You and the horses will be better off. Sorry, end of my safety rant.

NEITHER THE HOA NOR THE CGID HAVE ANY CONTROL OVER THE HORSES.

There are two major complaints; damage to the lawns and poop, along with the occasional mailbox.

Let me address lawn damage first. I have owned my own home and maintained a lawn since 1973. This is my opinion only. The damage to the lawn is temporary. Even the worst, pee spots, can be corrected with a little seed and some potting soil. The grass will be up and green in about a week if you water normally.

Then there is the poop. I can tell you what the HOA is doing. This year the Board has hired a grounds keeping company (Reno Green). This is a comprehensive contract to do all the required grounds maintenance year around. Included in that

contract are stipulations about picking up the horse poop on the common areas and on the homeowner's lawns that they service.

I cannot speak for the CGID.

Another school of thought holds that if you are fairly fit and have a shovel and a rake and are a great neighbor it might be nice if you got your waste management tote and picked up that pile in your yard and the one in that not so spring chicken's yard across the street. Then on your way back you can pick up that pile in the street.

Here is the contact information for the Wild Horse Connection: 775-352-3944 24-hours. Website link: [Wild Horse Connection - Wild Horses, Animal Rescue, Horse Pictures](#) Facebook page: [Wild Horse Connection | Facebook](#)