



Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition Position on Horse Slaughter

MHWC is an organization dedicated to protecting all equines from harm in the state of Minnesota and across the nation. As such, MHWC is opposed to the slaughter of horses and/or the transport of horses from the United States to other countries for slaughter.

MHWC maintains that horse slaughter is not a logical solution to address equine abuse and neglect, and that continued availability of horse slaughter enables and perpetuates overbreeding, neglect and irresponsibility by horse owners and the horse breeding industry. As long as slaughter is an outlet for owners and breeders to sell unwanted horses, horse slaughter will continue.

MHWC emphasizes the importance of promoting responsible horse ownership and population control measures as a way to address the issue of unwanted horses. Accordingly, horse owners must take the same responsibility for the humane disposition of their animals as other companion animal owners.

MHWC does not oppose humane euthanasia and supports humane methods to euthanize horses that are suffering, severely wounded or elderly and in need of a peaceful passing. By contrast, mass transportation of horses alone is often lethal, and the process of slaughter is brutal and terrifying. By its very nature, horse slaughter cannot be considered humane euthanasia.

MHWC contends that horse slaughter is inherently cruel and that alternative methods for managing the horse population must be prioritized.

MHWC remains committed to preventing horses from entering the slaughter pipeline. Consequentially, MHWC stands in opposition to horse slaughter.