

## Iconic Symbols Of America's Heritage, Wild Horse, Burro Adoptions At Tonganoxie

An opportunity to own a part of history is coming to Tonganoxie.

"The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will have a wild horse and burro adoption at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds on June 24-25," according to Crystal Cowan at the BLM office in Oklahoma City.

"These are adult and yearling horses and burros that once roamed free on public lands in the West," she said. "The BLM periodically removes excess animals from the range in order to maintain healthy herds and to protect other rangeland resources.

"The adoption program is essential for achieving these important management goals," Cowan emphasized.



Wild horses and burros roam public lands in the West. The Bureau of Land Management periodically removes excess animals from the range in order to maintain healthy herds and to protect other rangeland resources.

"Wild horses and burros are iconic symbols of America's western heritage, and are renowned for their strength, endurance, agility and intelligence, characteristics bred into them in the wild that make them ideal for work or recreation," Cowan said.

"Since 1973, the BLM has placed more than 230,000 of these 'living legends' in approved homes across the country," Cowan pointed out.

This adoption has been advertised and promoted heavily on 580 WIBW, Country Legends 106.9 KTPK, The BIG 94.5 Country, WibwNewsNow and the Kansas Agriculture Network.

Attendance is free and open to the public, but application approval is required and can be done on site with adoptions scheduled from noon, to 6 p.m., on Friday, the 24th, and from 8 to 10 o'clock, Saturday morning.

To qualify to adopt, one must be at least 18, with no record of animal abuse. Adopters must have a minimum of 400 square feet of corral space per animal, with free access to food, water and shelter.

A six-foot corral fence is required for adult horses, five feet for yearlings, and four-and-a-half feet for burros.

"All animals must be loaded in covered stock-type trailers with swing gates and sturdy walls and floors," Cowan said. "BLM staff will be on hand to assist adopters through the short application process."



Wild horses and burros are iconic symbols of America's western heritage, and are renowned for their strength, endurance, agility and intelligence, characteristics bred into them in the wild that make them ideal for work or recreation. A wild horse and burro adoption is planned June 24-25 at Tonganoxie. Information is available at 866-468-7826 and [www.blm.gov/nm/whb](http://www.blm.gov/nm/whb).

All animals will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis for the minimum adoption fee of \$125, which is set by law.

"However, BLM pays a one-time \$500 care-and-feeding allowance to adopters of horses at least four years old," Cowan said.

The allowance is paid in full after one year when adopters receive official ownership title for their horse(s). All standard adoption conditions and fees still apply.

"A limited number of eligible horses will be available, while younger horses, burros and trained animals are not eligible for this incentive," Cowan said.

"This incentive is designed to find homes for older horses that might otherwise be destined for long-term pastures, where they'd live out the remainder of their natural lives at taxpayer expense," Cowan explained.

Information is available at 866-468-7826, and [www.blm.gov/nm/whb](http://www.blm.gov/nm/whb).

### ***Padre Says:***

**"Without knowing it, people who lack humility create enormous stress for themselves. Rather than having the support, trust, admiration and encouragement of others, the opposite tends to occur. People are usually mad and frustrated with them, which creates all sorts of problems."**



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