

North American Saddlery School Bench & Onsite Fitting Course

Fall 2022

A practical course in bench flocking including minor repairs and refitting of saddles coupled with on-site flocking and adjustments including the use of pads as rebalancing tools, & more.

Venue: Stoneleigh Farm, 11655 Rocky Meadow Rd. Clear Spring, MD 21722

There is a classroom area, with chairs and benches, and bathroom facilities on the premises, barn, horses & riders readily available.

Length: 5 days (Bench three days, Onsite two days)
Monday- Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Dates: October 31- November 4, 2022

Cost: Bench & Onsite Course- Cost \$2000 for a 5-day course. A non-refundable deposit of \$1000.00 is required at registration to reserve a spot and full payment is due at least 30 days before the class begins. We work to secure the best instructors and must arrange for their flights. There is a \$150 administrative fee if you need to cancel or postpone within 30 days of the beginning of the course and a \$150 penalty if all course fees are not paid at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the course. **We do not offer any refunds; however, students may carry over course registration for a year.**

Fee Includes: Tuition, flocking & some supplies, We do provide individually wrapped snacks along with bottled water and tea/ coffee. We do offer several lunch selections & some limited breads for breakfast. A microwave and refrigerator are available for your use onsite.

(Please note, accommodation is not included and must be arranged by the delegate)

Object of the course: **Bench Course** is designed to give practical experience in the construction of saddles, with the development of skills in unlacing panels, stripping out of old flocking, re-flocking, and then re-lacing of panels. Additionally, the removal of airbags and the re-flocking of these panels are covered as well as minor repair work. **Onsite** is designed to offer experience in onsite flocking and adjustment to provide balance for the rider and even comfort to the horse. This includes onsite/at barn flocking and refitting of saddles on actual horses and riders, along with the use of therapeutic pads to aid correct development and mitigate problems.

Criteria for attendance: Candidates will have an interest in the equine industry. **The course is open to all retail and associated personnel in the saddlery trade, as well as those, seeking training in saddle fitting and repairs.** Preference will be given to those who own or are employed by a business which is retailing, manufacturing, or saddle repairing. All Candidates must agree, in writing, to comply with our COVID-19 Policies for everyone's safety. A copy is available upon request. **All Candidates MUST have experience and be comfortable independently handling horses, which can be unpredictable and dangerous.**

Notes: Each participant will receive a work folder with notes on the course and a workbook for notes. Each participant is asked to bring two saddles to work on throughout the course. Tools needed for this course are listed below, you are encouraged to bring the tools you use. There will be tools available with all the necessary needles, awls, knives, and flocking irons for participants to purchase.

Directions- 11655 Rocky Meadow Rd, Clear Spring, MD 21722, Phone- 774-249-3916 cell (best)

From hotel turn right out of drive onto Clear Spring road (towards town & traffic light), turn left on to Mulberry street (M&T Bank on your left and Post Office) go up the hill to stop sign, at stop turn left on to Big Pool road (leave town and cross the bridge that runs over highway) travel approx 2.5 miles to a one lane bridge, after crossing take the 1st road on your right, Rocky Meadow road, go approx ¼ mile, the farm is on the right, Stoneleigh Farm, gravel drive, black mailbox, farm sign, follow the drive to house, on the left is a small parking lot, please park perpendicular to the gate and fence near the lot, follow the fence to the new classroom.

Hotel Accommodations: **Clear Spring Area** (5 min from course site): Holiday Inn Express- 12426 Houck Ave, Clear Spring MD 21722, 301-842-0290 **Hagerstown Area** (about 15 min from course site): Plaza Inn, Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Microtel, Clarion, Best Western and Econolodge. **The Holiday Inn Express in Clear Springs offers a reduced rate for the North American Saddlery School. Please make this reservation at least two weeks ahead of time to get a reduced rate.**

Please return the attached application form and course deposit to register your interest in attending. Please note, if you do not send a deposit, a space on the course has not been reserved for you and spaces are limited!

Contact details:

North American Saddlery School Courses
11655 Rocky Meadow Rd. Clear Spring, MD 21722
Telephone 774-249-3916 Email saddleryschool@gmail.com
Send Checks to: 4400 Lake Hills Court; North Chesterfield, VA 23234

North American Saddlery School
Bench and Onsite Refitting Registration Form
October 31- November 4, 2022

Course Location: Stoneleigh Farm, Clear Spring, MD

Course Attending: **Bench & Onsite Fitting Course**

Attendee's Name:

Do you require any reasonable accommodations to participate in this course? If so, please advise so we can work on a reasonable accommodation.

Do you have any special dietary restrictions? If so, please advise so we can try to accommodate them.

Address:

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Payment Method: Check Credit Car (Visa or MasterCard)

Please make all checks to: North American Saddlery School

Card No or Check No: _____

Name of Card: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Return by Email saddleryschool@gmail.com; Phone 774-249-3916; or

Post for checks; Janice Stroud-Bickes, Director of Operations: 4400 Lake Hills Court; North Chesterfield, VA 23234. Checks can be made out to the North American Saddlery School or NASS.

Additional Notes: _____

We can no longer offer saddles for you to work on during this course. **You need to bring two to three wool flocked, English made saddles that are in fairly decent shape. You may ship these ahead of time to our Clear Springs address.**

There is a 3% convenience fee for use of a credit card. You may write a check.

Please see the recommended list of tools below.

Tools:

Straight Iron	Curved Iron	Flocking Hook	Saddlers Knife	Utility Knife	Tack Hammer
Tack Lifter	Staple Lifter	Saddlers Needles	Backing Awl	Curved Awl	Straight Harness Awl
Knocking Up Awl	Bulldog Pliers	Set of Picks	Set of Small Pliers	Screw Compass	Masher

Let us know of anything we can do so that you can get the most out of this course!