

**Guidance Document**  
**Exotic Animal Regulation**  
**Horses**

On August 6, 2007, the Baltimore City Health Department (Department) promulgated Regulations regarding the keeping of certain exotic pets and other animals. See *Wild and Exotic Animals: Prohibited*. The following provides additional commentary and guidance on the keeping of horses as allowed under the new Regulations.

The Regulations provide 6 methods for horses to be in Baltimore.

These methods are:

1. Horses that are actively engaged for use in a licensed Arabber and/or carriage trade.
2. Horses used in a zoological park.
3. Horses used as part of a research facility licensed under the Federal Animal Welfare Act.
4. Horses in a circus or owned by a native wildlife rehabilitator licensed by federal, state, or City permit.
5. Horses working for a law enforcement agency.
6. Horses used under Section 2 (d) of the regulations where the Bureau of Animal Control has “permitted and approved” a “venue to exhibit or use animals which has adequate operating protective measures to prevent these animals from becoming a public nuisance, injuring the public, or causing a public health threat.”

In order to justify a permit under (6), the owner shall show the following:

- a. Sheltering of the horses is in an approved stable. The stable must be licensed in accordance with state and local law. The stable and stall space must be capable of providing adequate space based on current nationally recognized humane standards and as mandated by state and local laws.
- b. Because these horses shall be considered pleasure horses, the facilities and proposed exercise space must meet nationally recognized humane standards, as set forth by nationally recognized humane organizations that provide guidelines for proper and adequate exercise space for such horses.
- c. Evidence of a Certificate of Equine Liability Insurance in the amount of \$50,000.
- d. Department approval of a plan detailing the intended “exhibition” or “use” of the animals.

The Department may convene an independent panel of equine humane experts to review the permit application.