

MONTANA CENTER FOR HORSEMANSHIP AND UMW

The brand new Montana Center for Horsemanship (MCH) will be hosting an open house during the Board of Regents meeting in Dillon. The center is located less than 2 miles south of campus off HW 91 (directions follow).

The University of Montana Western Equine Studies Department, which offers the nation's only four-year natural horsemanship degree, began offering natural horsemanship skills classes at the MCH in August 2011. Since 2004, the University has operated the unique and highly successful natural horsemanship program in close partnership with La Cense Montana. Before the center opened this fall, the skills classes were offered at the La Cense ranch about 10 miles south of campus. Students no longer need to trailer horses about 20 plus miles each day of class.

The center has completed phase one construction and is owned and operated by a private, non-profit foundation. As the center develops it will also be available to other community functions and tenets as well as to the Montana Western rodeo team for practice. Phase two will include a large indoor arena.

The new facility provides a unique number of benefits to Montana Western students, including a full-size outdoor arena (150'x300'), individual horse boarding in a 20'x60' (12'x20' covered) pen, individual tack lockers under the covered pen, feeding horses and clean pens. Long-term trailer parking and short-term parking for vehicles is also available.

The University of Montana Western, leases space and facilities from The Montana Center for Horsemanship, an educational Foundation, located at 707 Horseman Way, Dillon, Montana 59725.

Directions to the new Montana Center for Horsemanship.

From the UMW campus and the corner of Atlantic and Poindexter St, take Atlantic to the next block and turn left on Chapman (also HW 91s). The Barrett Hospital complex is on the corner. Drive 1.7 miles southwest on HW 91 to the entrance of the center--there is green sign for the Montana Center for Horsemanship. Turn right on the dirt road to the center, which is between HW 91 and I-15. It takes about 3 minutes from campus.

February 16, 2012