

# High Prices....Falling Economy

## WILL YOU HAVE TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR HORSE?



Many of us are feeling the financial crunch as our economy begins to circle the drain. We are facing difficult decisions in all aspects of our lives as we struggle to live within our means. One of the hardest decisions equestrians face is the possibility that we may not be able to afford to keep our horses.

With more and more horse owners facing this hardship, there are many horses being sent to the sale barns. Don't kid yourself...most still go to slaughter. U.S. slaughter houses may be closed, but horses continue to be transported over the border for slaughter in Mexico and Canada.

You love your horse and he depends on you to provide the best for him. If you have to sell, then his future is uncertain at best. If you could cut your horse care expenses in half (or more) and could then keep your horse, would you?

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### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

#### Consider Natural Hoof and Horse Care

Natural Care is overall far less expensive than Conventional Care. For example:

Naturally kept horses are not stalled which significantly reduces cost at boarding facilities. Pasture board is often half (or less) of what facilities charge for full board. Even if you keep your horse at home, no stalling means no bedding to buy! That alone can save you hundreds of dollars!!

Naturally kept horses are not shod which cuts your farrier costs in half or even to a third of what you pay for shoeing. For horses that need hoof protection when riding, quality hoof boots are now available. The price of a set of boots = one or two shoeings and the boots will last for years!

Naturally kept horses are fed more naturally which means far less feed concentrates (or eliminating grain altogether), but it does mean more hay. Even so it works out cheaper overall and by feeding your horse like a horse (forage over grain) you can expect your horse to be healthier long term.

Naturally kept horses are generally healthier. Healthier horse = far fewer vet calls.

Healthy, hardy feet = less lameness = fewer vet calls. Natural feeding = less digestive issues = less vet calls. Living outside in a herd environment as nature intended = more movement, more natural eating, healthier feet and bodies from activity = less vet calls.

Even if you have been skeptical of natural hoof and horse care in the past, or have never looked into it, its time to explore the option. Even if it's temporary, you can significantly reduce your horse care expenses and that may very well allow you to keep your horse through these trying economic times!

Contact a Natural Hoof Care Practitioner in your area to learn more about their services and what it can mean for you and your horse. Go to: [www.TribeEquus.com/help.html](http://www.TribeEquus.com/help.html) or [www.thehorseshoof.com/trimmers.html](http://www.thehorseshoof.com/trimmers.html) to begin your search.