

There are three hallmarks of our after-school program at Centaur Rising (CR): 1) our genuine concern for the overall personal development, self-esteem and well being of your child, 2) our commitment to provide the highest quality riding instruction, and 3) our desire to share with your child our compassion and appreciation for horses as fellow living creatures and friends.

We have long endeavored to provide an environment that gives your child (and adults – and horses) a sense of peace and belonging. Unlike many other stressful and superficial aspects of modern culture, CR provides a “safe harbor”, a place where we nurture success and self-esteem for everyone.

### School-Year-Long Commitment

As we are committed to your child, we ask that you be equally committed to us. We give preference in our after-school program to students who are serious about learning to ride and who plan to continue in the program throughout the school year. If you are not sure about your child’s continued interest in horses, see “Alternatives” below.



“After School at the Stable” (ASATS) is offered on a monthly basis, four weeks per month. During school breaks, when there may be fewer than four weeks of school in a month, kids may schedule a make-up private lesson or an extra after-school day. (See calendar insert.) Our calendar is based on the Jefferson County public school calendar. Other school calendars will be accommodated.

### Alternatives

Private lessons may be scheduled on Saturdays. We also offer lessons during the school day for adults, pre-schoolers and children who are home-schooled.

### After-School Activities

The heart of our program is a one-hour group riding lesson, scheduled at 3, 4 or 5pm. Extended supervision is offered to children who can observe quietly, study or do barn chores with minimal supervision. ASATS is offered Tuesday through Thursday. Your child may participate one, two or three days of the week.

### Transportation

Students of Elk Creek Elementary, West Jeff Middle School and Conifer High School can arrange with the bus barn to ride a school bus to the stable. If no other alternative is available (and especially if your child has attended ASATS before), we may be able to provide *limited* transportation to

the stable from Evergreen, Conifer and Bailey area schools. First, check with your friends about car pooling!

### Age Groups

The basic after-school program is designed for children ages 8-15. Younger children experienced with our programs may participate with special permission.

### Riding Style

We teach “dressage”, a word that in French means training. It is the classical, “correct”, and educated form of riding that has been developed and perpetuated by Masters over thousands of years. Dressage is a classical art form – like painting, architecture, music or dance. It provides the correct foundation for any future style of riding. Dressage is the basis, not just for surviving on the back of a horse, but for honoring and improving the horse, for making him more athletic, more comfortable to ride and more beautiful to behold. All of our advanced riders (kids and adults) do train their own horses.

### Commitment to Quality

We, as instructors, are very serious about our own learning at Centaur Rising. We study dressage as seriously as any of our students and endeavor to constantly improve our own riding and training such that we can improve our own teaching. Master riding teachers have given clinics here for over 25 years and will continue to do so. Our advanced juvenile riders have studied riding in Europe. They have trained their own horses to numerous regional and national awards. (See “Results” on our website!)

Just as we are committed to our own learning, we are committed to giving your child the classical correct basics for riding. As in any sport, future excellence can only be attained if the proper initial foundation is provided.

### Riding Levels

We can accommodate all riding levels in our after-school program. Generally each person will be started at the beginning level moving to a more advanced group (or private lessons) as his/her skills are demonstrated.

### Individual Needs

We will be honored to work closely with parents and teachers to address the individual needs of each child.

- Schoolwork always comes first. Do you want us to check to see if homework has been done before the child rides?
- Does your child need help with his/her homework? (Volunteer tutors are welcomed!)

We are committed to the overall development of your child – whether that be in overcoming fear, improving social skills, in becoming a proficient horse person, in accepting

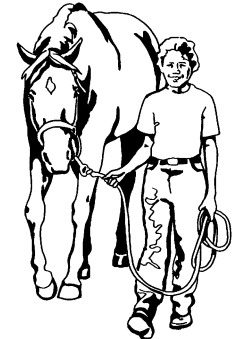
responsibility or in developing compassion, perseverance or focus.

### Boarded Horses

Children who board their horses through CR receive four private riding lessons per month as part of the monthly fee for boarding. They also may participate in ASATS for a nominal additional fee. Our more advanced juvenile students are given opportunities to help teach and supervise other children.

### Leasing Horses

When a student has reached a level of proficiency where we feel it is in the best interest of both horse and rider to part-lease one of our horses, the student may do so. Lessees receive many of the same benefits as boarders. Please note that the welfare of the horse always comes first in our leasing decisions. Rates and conditions for part-leases are subject to change at any time. Anyone part-leasing a school horse must be willing to give up the horse at any time if it is necessary to use him in a riding lesson or trail ride.



We feel that leasing is a very important precursor (or alternative) to buying a horse for your child.

### Payments

Once your child is enrolled in the program, we will assume that he/she will continue on the same day in the same type of participation unless we are notified by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month of participation. Payments for will be deducted from your credit/bank card on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding participation.

### Makeup of Missed Lessons

There are no cash refunds if you must miss a day for any reason. If you know at least one week in advance that your child will miss your regularly scheduled day, you may at that time re-schedule to a different day. If that appointment is missed, there will be no makeup. There is absolutely no makeup, after the fact, of ASATS days missed. So that we do not worry about your child, it will be very much appreciated if you notify us of any absences – anticipated or otherwise.

### Rates

Monthly rates are based upon the number of days/week attended. If your child comes once/week, it is \$150/mo; twice/week = \$250/mo; three times/week = \$350/mo. Lessees pay \$450/mo. All ASATS participants must pay in advance by bank/credit card.

## Dropping Out

Ongoing students are expected to continue through the balance of the school year. If you cannot commit to an entire school year, please consider "Alternatives". If you know in advance that your child will not be able to attend for a period of time, we will be glad to schedule – in advance – makeup opportunities.

## Winter Riding

Although there are very few days when it is simply too cold to ride, there are many more days when we see children inadequately dressed for the weather. Please see the insert for suggested "Winter Apparel".

## Weather Cancellations

We will schedule a makeup lesson if local schools are closed or if, in our opinion, the temperature in the riding arena is too cold for riding. (Generally speaking, we consider it too cold if the temperature in the arena is below 10° for experienced riders, below 15° for intermediate riders and below 20° for beginners and for children under the age of seven.) Aside from school closures, we will call you if ASATS has been canceled due to severe weather conditions. (Don't worry! If your child ends up at the stable in unfavorable weather, we will make sure that he/she stays warm until you get here.)

## Summer Day Programs

Centaur Rising offers a comprehensive horse-centered day camp program in the summertime. Call if you have not received a brochure in the Spring.

## "Centaur Rising"

ASATS is operated through a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation called "Centaur Rising". Donations to help defray the cost of this program are warmly accepted (and are tax-deductible!). Volunteer tutors and assistants are appreciated. If and when sufficient contributions have been set aside, scholarships will be offered to families who cannot pay the full published rates of this program. Please help if you can!

## [www.CentaurRising.org](http://www.CentaurRising.org)

Our website provides information on the missions and programs of Centaur Rising. All brochures and registration forms are downloadable from the website. If you know of someone who would like to sponsor a student or to contribute in some other way, please check "You Can Help" on the site. You can read about our school horses and the accomplishments of our students and former students.

***We are excited to have YOU a part of  
Centaur Rising!***

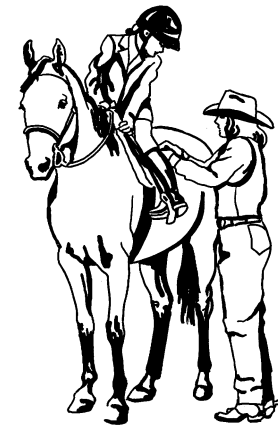
**Centaur Rising  
12889 S. Parker Ave.  
Pine, CO 80470**



**2011-12**

# After School at the Stable

*the after-school place for kids who love horses*



exemplary riding  
academic success  
leadership opportunities

12889 Parker Avenue  
Pine, CO 80470

**303-838-5086**

[www.CentaurRising.org/page/after\\_school.html](http://www.CentaurRising.org/page/after_school.html)

8/16/11