

## Wild Horse & Burro Adoption

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will hold a wild horse and burro adoption in Tonganoxie, Kan., August 8-9, 2014. The two-day event at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds will feature dozens of spectacular animals. These are adult and yearling horses and burros that once roamed free on public lands in the West. The BLM periodically removes excess animals from the range in order to maintain healthy herds and to protect other rangeland resources. The adoption program is essential for achieving these important management goals. This event is free and open to the public.

### **Adoption Schedule**

Friday, August 8 – Noon - 6 p.m.

Saturday, August 9 – 8-10 a.m.

### **Adoption Qualifications**

Application approval is required and can be done on site. To qualify to adopt, one must be at least 18, with no record of animal abuse. Adopters must have a minimum of 400 square feet of corral space per animal, with free access to food, water and shelter. A six-foot corral fence is required for adult horses, five feet for yearlings, and four-and-a-half feet for burros. All animals must be loaded in covered stock-type trailers with swing gates and sturdy walls and floors. BLM staff will be on hand to assist adopters through the short application process.

### **Adoption Fees**

All animals will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis for the minimum adoption fee of \$125 (set by law).

### **\$500 Adoption Incentive**

BLM pays a one-time \$500 care-and-feeding allowance to adopters of horses at least four years old. The allowance is paid in full after one year when adopters receive official ownership title for their horse(s). All standard adoption conditions and fees apply. A limited number of eligible horses will be available. Younger horses, burros and trained animals are not eligible for this incentive. This incentive is designed to find homes for older horses that might otherwise be destined for long-term pastures, where they'd live out the remainder of their natural lives at taxpayer expense.

**For more information,** call toll-free 866-468-7826 or visit [www.blm.gov/nm/whb](http://www.blm.gov/nm/whb).

Directions (405 W 4th St.): On U.S. 24/40 in Tonganoxie, west on K-16, about 1/4 mile to Fair entrance on right.