

# **Free Roaming Horses Advisory Council**

## **Public Safety / Public Awareness**



## **Public Safety/Public Awareness Committee:**

**Serves to develop greater public safety measures (speed control, fencing, cattle guards, etc). Provides public awareness and works to create a cooperative climate within the community. Helps support the fertility control program. Short-term planners focused on feasible, immediate, interim measures that mitigate risk.**

**On recommendations from the Committee  
The Sheriff's Office has instituted an  
Increase of Traffic Enforcement!**





# A Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Prevention Pamphlet has been distributed in Placitas and to drivers.

## 3 Be Aware of Your Surroundings

In today's fast paced society, it's easy to lose focus while driving — singing a tune, thinking about your tasks for the day — anything can be a distraction. When driving, it's imperative that you always pay attention to your surroundings. Remember, animals come in all shapes and sizes, so even a small animal, like a jackrabbit, can make you swerve and cause a traffic collision with another vehicle or another object. If you are always aware of your surroundings, you can react accordingly to avoid an accident.



## The Cost of Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions

The best estimate from the U.S. Department of Transportation, is that wildlife-vehicle collisions cost Americans approximately \$8.3 billion a year.

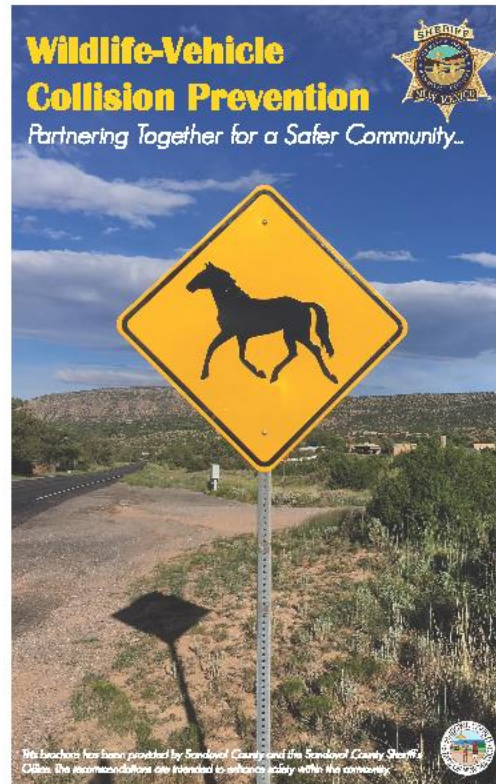
In fact, collisions with deer represent the single largest collision category involving human and vehicle costs. On average, if you were to have a collision with a deer while driving, you would have to pay the following:

- ♦ \$1,840 in vehicle repairs
- ♦ \$2,702 in medical costs
- ♦ \$125 in towing fees
- ♦ \$50 for animal carcass removal

That's more than \$4,500 out of your pocket. These costs can be mitigated by taking the time to follow the basic safety steps outlined in this brochure.

## Did You Know?

The Sandoval County Sheriff's Office is not a revenue-generating entity for the County. All monies generated from fines related to traffic tickets go directly to the State of New Mexico.



We are in the process of creating a Horse Safety Pamphlet that provides guidance on:

- Safely Viewing the Free-Roaming Horses.
- Dangers to the Horses and Public regarding Feeding in areas that create a safety hazard.
- What to do if you see Horses near a roadway. Etc.



**The Sheriffs Office is in the process of purchasing signs that can be placed on County Roadways near areas where people are carelessly placing hay/food near roadway.**

# PLACITAS



# SLOW DOWN!

# CAUTION

Free Roaming Horses fed along roads tend to stay near roads, increasing the chance of vehicle-horse accidents.



Please Report Hay or Other Animal Food Placed Near or on Roadway to the Sheriffs Office at 505-867-7526 or [scsocrimewatch@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:scsocrimewatch@sandovalcountynm.gov)

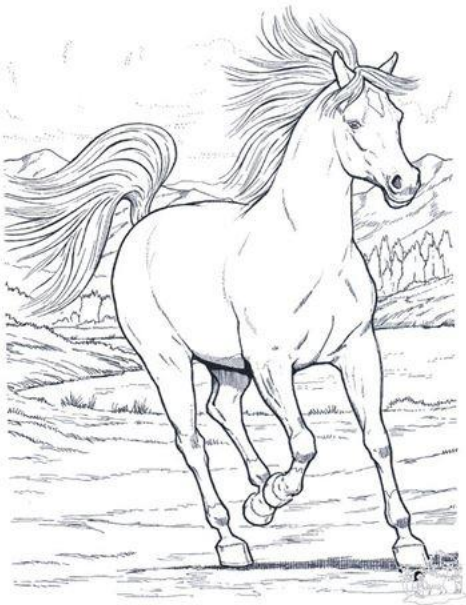




# Speed Display Radar Trailer

# Placitas Elementary

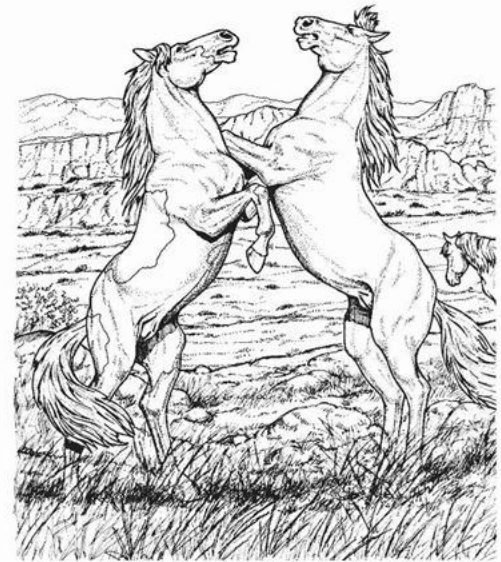
PLEASE DRIVE SAFE



CARS MUST SLOW DOWN WHEN YOU SEE HORSES  
NEAR THE STREET!



WILD HORSES ARE WILD!



DO NOT FEED AND KEEP A SAFE  
DISTANCE

The Sheriff's Office, utilizing our School Resource Deputy has been helping educate the students on both safety and the horses themselves.

Sheriff's Office currently has a Lieutenant  
and an Animal Control officer trained in  
**“Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue.”**



Sheriff's Office recently sent an Animal Control Officer to Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue training. The training centered around handling and rescuing large animals. Techniques were taught using specialized training and rescue equipment such as slings, rescue harnesses, Rescue Tri/Bi pods, and other specialized equipment. The