



COURTESY PHOTO

RideFauquier is a local trail group developing a public horse facility and trail system on Meetze Road just east of Warrenton. Volunteers are hard at work expanding the trailer parking area so area riders can park and ride miles of trails between Meetze Road and Lord Fairfax Community College. The group is hosting a benefit ride Saturday at Great Meadow. Find more at [ridefauquier.com](http://ridefauquier.com).

## Meetze Station horse park gets fresh funding

By **Betsy Burke Parker**

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

For years a local horse club has excited area riders by working to develop a new trail system in Warrenton.

Now one of the largest equestrian associations in the nation is rewarding their initiative.

RideFauquier, formerly called the Fauquier Equestrian Forum, was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the American Quarter Horse Association to continue developing the horse trail system at Meetze Station just

east of town on Meetze Road.

Club president Jinx Fox says the Stewards for Trails, Education and Partnership (STEP) program grant will help RideFauquier restore, repair and establish trails. RideFauquier was one of five STEP grant recipients for 2019.

In addition, the Fauquier Trails Coalition recently granted RideFauquier \$10,000 to help complete the equestrian park's recreational facilities, including trailer parking and trail access.

"Both the AQHA and Fauquier Trails Coalition funds come at a

crucial time during our nonprofit's ongoing construction of the parking lot as well as trail access," Fox said. "We're also working on (riding) arena construction, so these grants are a great support."

This Saturday, Nov. 9, RideFauquier has a fundraiser trail ride at Great Meadow in The Plains. Fox says this will be a slow, guided ride that will encircle the vast property for about 2 hours, with a light lunch to follow.

Riders are asked to register and pay online at [ridefauquier.com](http://ridefauquier.com) prior to the event.