

Sharp Riding Academy is a small horse facility located in SE Catawba County. Rebecca Sharp is the horse instructor, she grew up with horses all her life and has over 45 years of experience. Rebecca wanted to share her passion of horses with as many kids as she could and gives horse riding lessons to children and adults of all ages, from all walks of life! Sharp Riding Academy provides children with responsibilities for caring for horses, learning about the horse anatomy, grooming them, and of course cleaning their stalls, all very good lessons of responsibility. Sharp Riding Academy also works with therapeutic counselors providing horseback riding for children who suffer from anxiety and other disabilities. We also partner with Murrays Mill for their annual festival providing horse rides and do the same with local churches, schools and other groups. We also travel to businesses or country clubs and provide horse activities for their functions. Sharp Riding Academy also participates in the local home schooling programs by offering "Home School Thursday" where those families and children meet with other families and children who to participate in horse activities. For those that don't like to ride all the time we have a picnic area with sandbox, bean bag toss, and swings. We are looking to expand our program for Wounded Warriors as well as children at risk. *Birthday Parties*

Sharp Riding Academy provides these opportunities for the local community and gives children opportunities that they may never be afforded. What we do offsets some of the expenses that comes with horses and enriches our younger generation with outdoor activities, responsibilities and exposure to animals.

Sharp Riding Academy is a value add for the community and we thank you in advance for approving our request for this special use permit.

Sincerely,



Doug Sharp

Sharp Riding Academy