

Horse Trailer Maintenance

Horse trailer maintenance can be broken down into these areas

1. Pre-trip or daily inspections which include the following:

- a.) inspect the hitching apparatus for cracks or defects which can have an adverse effect on its operation.
- b.) inspect the lighting pigtail and plug for worn spots, broken wires, damaged wire casing, and corrosion.
- c.) inspect the trailer jack for missing jack foot, loose mounting bolts, ease of operation and cracks in the housing and around the mounting surface.
- d.) inspect the tires for cuts or bubbles in the side walls, tire tread for sufficient tread depth (most manufactures recommend replacement at 2/32"), Check for tires suitable for trailer use and lastly check for proper inflation. (Inflation recommendations can be found on the side wall of the tire).
- e.) inspect wheels for cracks and loose lug nuts
- f.) inspect lights for proper operation, replace any broken lens or burnt out light bulbs.
- g.) inspect the overall condition of the trailer repair or replace any defects noted.

2. Weekly or monthly inspections which include:

- a.) pre-trip or daily inspections
- b.) clean and inspect trailer floor
- c.) clean and inspect floor mats
- d.) grease all grease fittings if applicable

3. Semi-annual or annual inspections which include

- a.) all above mentioned maintenance
- b.) inspect and repack wheel bearings and renew wheel seals
- c.) inspect brakes for worn pads and brake hardware
- d.) inspect springs, spring hangers and axle u-bolts

With proper maintenance your trailer will be ready at a moments notice and will greatly lengthen the life of it. The other benefit of proper maintenance is the reduced cost of repairs and it creates a safer environment for the horses you carry.