

As a horse owner and a dog owner, I have experience in both areas. I train my horses and dogs at home, in my personal arena in a rural area. For years I have traveled to other arenas with both my horses and dogs in a training, working & playing capacities. A well-trained dog is a pleasure to be around. Exposure to different areas, sights and smells is imperative to making a well-rounded dog.

Neither equine or canine have any adverse effect on the land or the surrounding areas. A working dog does not bark excessively or make themselves a nuisance. These facilities are not synonymous with dogs running amuck or barking all hours of the night. They are filled with people that have a bond with their dog and care enough to put forth time and effort to ensure their dog has a fun well rounded life and is an asset to the community. They are not filled with vicious dogs that run around fighting with one another, causing havoc in the community and being an overall nuisance.

If you look at a structural perspective, a horse is much harder on land and building than a dog. An arena used for equine or canine are very similar (except a dog owner picks up after their dog)! To have two separate requirements is a mystery to me.

Economically, horse and dog facilities are an integral part of rural areas and are interchangeable. Many arenas are used for equine and canine purposes, jointly. Household incomes are supported by training both species out of the same building. Tying the hands of people making an honest living just makes no sense (and in a Pandemic, really!).

Both are domesticated animals that are part of the family. Carving restrictions out from one another does not seem like a responsible thing to do.

Please, be reasonable and do not create a burden where there does not need to be one.