You do not need prior horse experience to participate in this course.

The Sterling Volunteer Fire Company is proud to host an Equine Rescue Training class to be presented by the Connecticut Emergency Animal Response Service. Connecticut has one of the highest horse populations per capita, so it is only a matter of time before you are called to respond to a horse-related incident. This training is designed specifically for first responders who may be called upon to assist in equine emergency incidents. The training will include presentation and demonstration of equipment and techniques, general overview of animal behavior in stressed situations, and hands-on instruction in proper approach, handling, and assisting of large animals. Through multimedia presentations and hands on exercises we will cover scene safety, operations staging, technical rescue scenarios including injured and down horses, barn fires, barn collapses, trailer accidents, and disaster preparedness.

Classroom training and lunch will take place at Station 67 located at 225 Main Street in Sterling. Hands on training will take place at nearby Windham Hill Farm. Hands on training will be split into 2 groups. Beginners with little to no horse experience and an advanced group for those already comfortable working with horses.

For more information, or to register, contact Kurt Oster at koster@cuvs.org or text or call (860) 908-4658. The course is free, but enrollment is limited, so please register as early as possible.