



**U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern States  
7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153**



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

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**For Release: Immediately**

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### **Leprechauns Visit Wild Horse Center**

The luck of the Irish will be with every person who adopts a wild horse or burro at the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Facility at Cross Plains, Tennessee on March 19 and 20, 1999. A friendly leprechaun has granted a free, green body brush to every adopter for their new adopted animal. This brush is made of very soft synthetic bristles for use on sensitive areas such as the face. Approximately 150 wild horses and some male burros will be offered for adoption to qualified individuals who agree to give them good homes. There will be a good selection of pregnant mares, geldings, studs, and weanlings available for adoption at \$125 per animal.

BLM's Eastern States Director W. Hord Tipton said, "These national treasures were gathered recently from the western range lands to maintain a balance among the grazing wild horse and burro herds and native wildlife and domestic animals." The nominal fee of \$125 helps recover some of the expenses the Federal Government incurs for transportation and veterinary care.

You can qualify to adopt by providing a 12 x 12 foot shelter and a 20 x 20 foot corral that has sturdy fencing constructed of pole, pipe, or plank boards at least 6 feet high for horses and 5 feet high for burros. You must have a solidly-constructed horse trailer with a covered top and side-swinging back gates (drop ramps are not permitted). Also, you need to bring along halters and lead ropes.

The BLM contract crew will halter and load your foster animal(s) into your trailer. And each animal will have been checked by a veterinarian or qualified professional and will be certified as healthy before leaving the Cross Plains Adoption facility.

**MORE**

## Add1/Leprechauns Visit the Horse Center

People who are interested in adopting a 'living legend' can pick up an application at the Cross Plains facility on Thursday, March 18, between 1:00-5:00 p.m. or on Friday, March 19, between 7:00-9:00 a.m. All applicants approved before 9:00 a.m. on March 19 will be eligible for the "lottery" drawing to determine the order in which adopter's may choose their animals. After lottery participants have selected their animals for adoption, any remaining animals will be available for adoption by qualified adopters who did not participate in the lottery.

The Cross Plains Adoption Facility is located approximately 35 miles north of Nashville, Tennessee. From I-65 North, take exit 112. Take Highway 25 west for 4 miles and follow the signs to the facility. Adoption hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information about the Wild Horse and Burro Program, visit the web page at: <http://www.adoptahorse.blm.gov>