

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Contact:**

Diana L. Klink  
757.514.4104  
757.359.1845

Tim Kelley  
757.514.4103  
757.871.3039

### **SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE PERSONNEL RESCUE HORSE**

SUFFOLK, VA (May 10, 2016) Suffolk Fire & Rescue personnel made a rescue of a different sort on Sunday morning when they rescued a horse from a muddy ditch.

Crews responded to the 5300 block of OKelly Drive on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:22 a.m. after a citizen advised of the situation involving a 1200 pound mare that was found on her side in a ditch with her legs wrapped around low-lying tree branches and trunks. The horse had been down for an unknown period of time and had visible injuries to its legs as it had tried to free itself from the branches.

Medics and Technical Rescue Team members assisted the horse's owner with supplies from their IV box in order to provide medications to the horse as ordered by the vet, who was also on his way to the scene. While awaiting the vet's arrival crews were able to remove nearby trees to assist with clearing an area around the horse.

The ditch was approximately 3 feet deep and 5 feet wide and the decision was made to use webbing and hooking connected to a tractor in order to pull the horse from the ditch and into the field. Crews then assisted with rolling the horse over to its other

side in order to improve blood flow. After several minutes, the vet and family were able to get the mare back onto her feet.

Responding units included Rescue 1, Engine 7 and Medic 1 and Suffolk Animal Control.

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