

### **Wagon Safety Checks:**

- Lose Tires
- Lose spokes
- Grease daily
- Excessive wear in Fifth wheel
- Bolster rotting or wear
- Excessive wear on skein and boxing
- Seat wood condition and construction
- Seat too far forward
- Brake functions, chain or friction
- Tongue Condition
- Hounds condition
- Double tree and or single trees
- Don't just look at the cart/wagon from the top.... get underneath it (no equine attached, obviously <grin>) Look at the wheels, axles, frame, shafts and shaft attachment and every other part you can see and some you cannot see
- Perch or Coupling pole
- Wheels—Rap the tire with a hammer and listen to how solid it sounds. If it makes a "chuck" sound instead of ringing, the wheel has shrunk and the tire needs resetting.
- Lose nuts
- 2 sets of Safety Wheel Chokes Present (For use when stopped around crowds?)

### **Harness Checks:**

- All the joints are solid, not wearing through
- Make sure all the parts are present for the harness
- Check all buckles, conways and snaps to see that they are functioning correctly
- Make sure, if leather, that the leather is pliable...that means you can bend it and it does not crack or is not too stiff
- Have at least one Spare Hame string/strap
- Hame Condition
- Quarter Straps/Hold backs
- Pole strap
- Tugs/Traces
- Excessive wear
- Nothing sharp toward animals
- Sized to fit animals
- Bridle condition, watch for wear where the bit connects to the headstall

**Animal Checks:**

- Check for wounds
- Check for sore girths, shoulders, and rumps where the brichen might rub
- Check feces daily
- Check hooves regularly
- Never trust an animal, no matter how well trained or gentle it has been
- Inflamed joints
- Cough
- Nose runny

**Scratch Test**

- You may be asked to perform a test of basic driving abilities before taking the field

***Having Liability Insurance is strongly suggested***