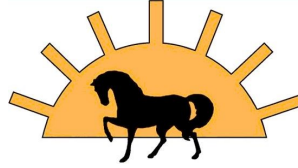


Sunrise Equine Veterinary Services, PLLC



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651-583-2162

www.SunriseEquine.com

Fall 2018

SEVS News

Dr. Kirsten Frederickson

Greetings from all of us at Sunrise Equine. Again this year there have been several cases of West Nile reported to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health. There have been a few in Wisconsin as well. As with last year, all of the cases have been in unvaccinated animals. The vaccine is very safe and effective. If you have any horses or donkeys that have never had it, please consider protecting them. For those receiving the vaccine for the first time, a booster is needed 3-4 weeks after the initial dose to ensure adequate immunity.

As some of you may know, Dr. Michelle Wiberg is due to have her baby at the end of December. She is expecting a boy and we are all very excited for her and her husband. After some time home with the new baby boy she will be back to her regular schedule with us.

Dr. Megan Trauba will be resigning from her equine position here to pursue a career in small animal practice. She is sad to be leaving us, and will miss caring for your horses. This is a decision she needed to make in order to achieve her future family goals. We will miss her greatly!

We are actively seeking a new equine associate to fill the open position and look forward to introducing a new team member to you soon.

If you have not done so already, fall is a great time to have your horses' dental exam done. With the changing weather and winter just around the corner, pastures will stop growing and horses will be relying on hay. It is important to ensure that their teeth are in optimal condition so they can process and retain the nutrients and calories they need throughout the long winter season. We are happy to come to the farm at your convenience to provide this exam and service. Alternatively you can take advantage of our Winter Dental Special* by hauling in to us or receive a discount on the farm call by scheduling on one of the Routine Care Days** for your area.

*See details in the right column.

**See details on back page.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for upcoming events.

Please "Like" us on Facebook!
Keep updated with horse news you need to know.

Mission Statement:

At Sunrise Equine we are committed to helping improve the lives of horses and their owners. We work collaboratively to apply our knowledge and skills, and to educate our clients. We are here for owners and horses in their time of need, and will advocate for the best interest of both. We work ethically and with integrity in everything we do.

Barn Cat Castration Day

To help reduce the cat overpopulation problem, we are once again neutering male barn cats at a reduced fee.

When: Saturday, November 3rd, 2018

Cost: 1 cat - \$70
2 cats - \$60 each
3 or more - \$50 each

Vaccinations available: PRCC \$17.00
Rabies \$16.00

Drop your cat off Saturday morning between 8-9am and pick him up between 11-1 pm. We will call you with your scheduled drop off/pick up times a couple days before appointment.

Each cat MUST be in its own individual carrier with a blanket/towel. ***Please call to make your cats' appointment!

***Also, call for more info on a few scheduled barn cat spay days for the females—November through February

Winter Dental Special:

November through February the office call will be free when you bring your horse(s) to our heated barn for dental floating!

Special Services Offered:

- ◆ Professional Equine Chiropractic Care
- ◆ Upper Airway Endoscopy AND Gastric Endoscopy
- ◆ Advanced Ultrasound
- ◆ Portable Digital Radiography
- ◆ Shockwave Therapy
- ◆ Eye Pressure Checks

Equine Emergencies: When to Call the Vet

By Michelle Wiberg, DVM

“Colics, Cuts, and Chokes” are some of the most common emergencies we see here at Sunrise Equine. Yet for many owners, they still aren't sure what is considered an emergency and what can wait for the next available appointment. This article will briefly walk you through some of the most common emergency situations. Keep in mind, when in doubt, always call and talk to your veterinarian. We have a veterinarian on call at all times that can help you determine if your horse issue warrants an emergency visit. Be prepared to describe your horse's symptoms, take a temp, pulse and respiration if you are able, and be prepared to follow instructions while you wait for the veterinarian to arrive.

Colic: Colic is defined as any pain in the abdomen. In horses, the pain is usually originating from the digestive tract. Symptoms may include lack of appetite, pawing, laying down, and in severe cases thrashing and rolling. Experienced owners may be able to determine the severity of the colic. Mild colics can sometimes be helped by hand walking which can stimulate the bowels to move and pass manure. Always consult with your veterinarian before giving medications such as banamine or ulcer medications. A heart rate, assessment of hydration status, and severity of pain symptoms will help the veterinarian determine the severity of the emergency. Be prepared to be asked if referral or colic surgery is an option for you and your horse.

Cuts: Wounds come in all ranges of severity from minor abrasions requiring minimal treatment, to deep penetrating wounds or punctures that may require sutures, drain placement, or even referral if important structures such as joints or tendons have been involved. Signs your horse warrants an emergency visit include active bleeding, full thickness skin lacerations requiring sutures, deep puncture wounds, lameness, or wounds near important structures like joints or eyes. Be prepared to place a bandage to stop the bleeding and keep the horse calm and confined in a clean area to prevent contamination of the wound. Do not apply any sprays or ointments to an open wound without first consulting with your veterinarian. Keep in mind lacerations should be repaired within 6 hours for the best chance of complete closure.

Choke: Choke in horses is an obstruction of the esophagus, not the trachea as in humans. Horses may be found with feed material coming from their nose, straining to swallow, coughing, retching, and in some horses a degree of colic like symptoms such as pawing and rolling. Choke is common in horses that have poor dentition but can happen in any horse that eats too quickly and swallows too large of a bolus of feed. If possible, try to determine what type of feed your horse was consuming when it started choking and prevent the horse from eating any further feed. Some feeds can soften and will pass with hand walking and gentle massage of the esophagus. In many cases, an emergency visit is warranted where the veterinarian will pass a naso-gastric tube and push the obstruction down into the stomach.

Fever: Fever in horses can be due to both infectious and non-infectious reasons. A normal temp in a horse is 99-101. A febrile horse may act lethargic, be anorexic, and may even exhibit signs of colic. Always call your vet if your horse has a fever and discuss the symptoms you are seeing. A fever may or may not warrant an emergency visit but should likely be seen within the next 24 hours. Always consult with your veterinarian before administering medications like Bute or Banamine. A cold water or alcohol bath can help lower your horse's body temperature while you wait for the vet to arrive.

Eyes: Signs your horse has an injury to the eye may include squinting, tearing/discharge, swelling, or discoloration of the eye. It is recommended to always consult with your veterinarian when it comes to eye issues. You may cold pack a swollen eye or gently flush debris or discharge from the eye with saline or wipe the eye with a soft damp cloth. In general, do not apply any medications to the horse's eye without first consulting with your veterinarian. Certain eye conditions can be serious and may require prompt treatment.

Lameness: Lameness, or pain in the horse's limb(s), is often easily recognized by owners. The horse may be non-weight bearing on a single leg, or appear to be “walking on egg shells” as in the case of laminitis. Hoof abscesses can present as a sudden lameness similar to a fracture. It is important for the owner to access the horse to determine if there is any swelling, heat, or obvious areas of pain. Move the horse as little as possible and confine to a safe comfortable area. Most lamenesses warrant a call to the veterinarian and should be seen as soon as possible, but may not warrant an emergency visit. Consult with the veterinarian before administering pain medications.

Mares and Foals: If your mare has been in labor for more than 20 minutes without progression or you see anything protruding besides two front feet and a nose, your mare may be experiencing dystocia and warrants and emergency visit. Any mare that become febrile or colicky post-foaling should also be seen as soon as possible. Symptoms that a foal is sick can range from subtle changes in nursing and activity to more obvious signs such as coughing, diarrhea, lameness, and extreme lethargy. Sick foals can go from bad to worse in a matter of hours, so it is prudent to call your vet as soon as a change is noted.



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Time to Say Goodbye

Making end of life decisions can be difficult and emotional. Veterinary medicine and preventative care means horses often survive conditions that would result in death in the wild. For example, most housing situations lack predators that would eat a horse that can not keep up with the herd. We provide our horses with regular access to feed and water so they do not have to starve or suffer from dehydration as their feral counterparts may. By taking a horse out of its “natural” environment, we also accept the responsibility of providing a humane end for our horses. By providing quality care for our animals, we also postpone our horse’s natural life expectancy. The average life expectancy of a horse is 25-30 years but with better veterinary we see horses living well into their 30’s. We also have to consider how harsh Minnesota Winters can be especially with horses that are older, underweight or horses with chronic lameness conditions. Our hope is that the following considerations will help you know when it is time to make the right choice for a peaceful passing.



AMBULATION

- 1) Can your horse lie down safely, and does he/she lie down regularly (at least once every 2-3 days)? Does he/she lie down so much that he has bedsores /pressure sores?
- 2) Can your horse walk around? Does he/she safely and voluntarily walk around his/her enclosure? If your horse lives in pasture, can he/she keep up with the herd?
- 3) Can your horse perform basic behaviors, such as picking up and holding all 4 feet for the farrier?

APPETITE

- 1) Does your horse show interest in feed? Is he/she able to chew and swallow the feed you provide?
- 2) Are you able to make feed changes your horse may need such as an old horse needing senior feed? Is your horse and appropriate body condition score which is based on the Henneke body condition score system.
- 3) Are you able to medicate your horse as frequently as he may need?
- 4) Is it safe for your horse to receive preventative dental care?

ATTITUDE

- 1) What are your horse’s three favorite things? Can he/she still do them safely and as regularly as he/she would like?
- 2) Does your horse have something that he/she looks forward to (besides eating) every day?
- 3) Is your horse in pain? Refer to the Pain Scale below.

- 4) Can your horse’s pain be managed? Consider writing down your horse’s behaviors in a notebook at each visit to look for changes over time.
- 5) Consult with people you trust who know you and your horse. Has your trainer/farrier/barn friend noticed a difference in your horse’s attitude?

MISC

- 1) Can your horse’s diagnosis be cured? If it cannot be cured, can it be managed adequately? Can you afford the costs of medications, procedures, and/or recheck visits needed to manage the condition?
- 2) Are you aware of the cost of euthanasia? How will the remains be handled?

CONSIDER EMERGENCY EUTHANASIA SITUATIONS

It is always good to have a plan for the middle of the night colic emergency or bad laceration. It is important to consider some of these questions before the emergency happens: 1) would you perform colic surgery on your horse? 2) Would you refer to a veterinary hospital for a wound in to the joint. If your horse needs to be put to sleep, what are your options for burial at your property?

Be realistic with yourself and your situation. Honestly answer the question “What does my horse want?” knowing that your emotions may make this question difficult to answer. Except under extreme emergency exceptions, your veterinarian cannot make this decision for you. They can do their best to answer your questions and support your decision.

Horse Pain Scale:

<http://csu-cvms.colostate.edu/Documents/anesthesia-pain-management-pain-score-equine.pdf>

I highly recommend consulting this article for additional information:

<https://aaep.org/horsehealth/euthanasia-most-difficult-decision>

And as always, discuss any questions or concerns that arise with your veterinarian.

Tried and trusted with more than 8 million doses used in horses.

ases, ask for VETERA.

tion is oftentimes one you horses on the inside with strong, happy and healthy.

rian for VETERA.

Boehringer Ingelheim

Fall Routine Care Days!

To better serve our clients, we are offering **HALF PRICE FARM CALLS*** if you are able to schedule your horses' routine Fall care on the days we have designated a doctor will be in your area!

Routine and preventative care includes wellness exams, dental exams and power dental floats, vaccinations, Coggins, sheath cleanings, recheck exams, fecal egg counts, dewormings, and castrations.

How to schedule: 1.) Find your city or nearby city, and determine which Zone you fall in. 2.) Pick one of the dates we will be in your Zone and give us a call to schedule your appointment. We ask that you are flexible with your appointment time (no specific time is scheduled as appointments are routed according to location), and **call at least a week in advance.** Priority will be given to those that call first. 3.) We will call you the day before the appointment and give you an estimated 2 hour window during which the doctor will arrive. We will call again the day of the appointment to notify you that the doctor is on their way. **Please have your horses caught and ready for their veterinary visit.** We reserve the right to cancel a scheduled routine care day based on low participation (less than 2 appointments in an area).

Preventative care days are intended for clients with only a few horses who are looking for ways to save a little money without their horses having to leave the farm. If you have 10 or more horses, please call and schedule a barn day where you will receive a different discount and have to option to request a doctor. If the dates listed do not work with your schedule or if you have other work that you would like done on your horse, as always, you may call and schedule an appointment at your convenience. If you are able to coordinate your visit with your neighbor(s), we are still willing to offer discounted farm calls. Give our office a call to schedule your appointment. Call early for best availability!
651-583-2162

**Must pay in full at time of appointment*

Zone	Cities	Dates (Monday-Friday)
1	North Branch, Harris, Stacy, Sunrise	September 17 th , October 3 rd & 26 th
2	Rush City, Rook Creek, Rush Point	September 18 th , October 1 st & 31 st
3	Grantsburg, Siren, Webster, Danbury	September 19 th , October 5 th & 29 th
4	Frederic, Cushing, Luck, Milltown	September 20 th , October 10 th , November 5 th
5	Shafer, Taylors Falls, St. Croix Falls, Centuria, Balsam Lake, Dresser, Osceola, Amery	September 21 st , October 8 th , November 7 th
6	Wyoming, Chisago City, Lindstrom, Center City, Scandia, Forest Lake, Columbus, Hugo	September 24 th , October 17 th , November 2 nd
7	Isanti (S. of CR 5), East Bethel, Bethel, St. Francis, Ham Lake, Linwood	September 25 th , October 15 th , November 9 th
8	Cambridge, Isanti (N. of CR 5), Stanchfield, Braham, Dalbo	September 26 th , October 19 th , November 12 th
9	Pine City, Grasson, Mora, Brook Park	September 27 th , October 24 th , November 16 th
10	Hinckley, Sandstone, Askov, Finlayson	September 28 th , October 22 nd , November 14 th

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ Cat Castration Day November 3rd
- ◆ Fall Routine Care Days: Sept-Nov
- ◆ See schedule on the back!

◆ Winter Dental Special: November through February. Office call will be free when you bring your horse(s) to our heated barn for dental floating!

Address Correction Requested

Sunrise Equine Veterinary Services
39318 Poor Farm Road
North Branch, MN 55056

