



Open House

April 12, 2008

10am - 3pm

Meet the Staff

Win Prizes

See the Clinic

Dear Friends,

For those of you who don't know us, we would like to introduce ourselves. We are the George family and our goal is to offer high quality medicine and compassionate care to clients and their family pets, horses, and livestock. To learn more about us and our clinic, please visit our website at www.deerfieldvetclinic.com or stop by during our open house which will take place on Saturday, April 12, 2008 from 10am—3pm. We'd love for you to get to know us better.

We have been working hard to get Deerfield Veterinary Clinic fully up and running. The inner construction of the clinic has been finished. By the time of our open house, the barn and large animal treatment area will be completed. Dr. George wanted only the best equipment for our clients and their pets. We have a digital x-ray system that can be used on the road for large animals and in the clinic for small animals. We also have a portable ultrasound machine that can be used for both large and small animals. While he already utilizes the ultrasound for diagnostic purposes, Dr. George plans to hone his skills by attending the NAVC Institute Program in Orlando, FL from May 18-24. Here he will spend a week with intensive training on nothing but ultrasound. He will study cases and have hands-on learning with instructors. This course will help Dr. George to offer better services to the pets in his care.

We hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful and we would love to see you at our open house. You will be able to meet the staff, check out our facilities, and even sign up to win some prizes. If you can't make it on April 12, stop by anytime for a tour or just to say Hi.

Hope to See You Soon,

Simon, Jenni, and Elayna George



Hours of Operation

Mon—Wed: 8am—6pm Thurs: 8am—8pm

Fri: 8am—5pm Sat: 8am—Noon

24-Hour Emergency On-Call 7 Days a Week

What You Need To Know About Horse Vaccines

We all know the importance of vaccinating our horses every year. But, what do all those vaccines do? Are they really necessary? Most people always do what their veterinarian recommends. We'd like you to know why we make those recommendations. Here is a list of core vaccines, the diseases they fight, and the recommendations of Deerfield Veterinary Clinic.



Rabies

- Neurological disease of all warm-blooded mammals. Horses exhibit common signs including fever, dull attitude, and high sensitivity to light and sound. Usually leads to progressive paralysis that results in death. Typically spread through a bite wound from an infected animal.
- Rabies is endemic in New Hampshire and DVC highly recommends vaccinating all horses yearly.

West Nile Virus

- Often fatal neurological disease spread by mosquitoes. Studies have shown that vaccinated horses have a much higher survival rate should they contract the disease.
- DVC recommends all horses be vaccinated yearly for the West Nile Virus.

Equine Viral Encephalitis (EEE and WEE) *Part of 3-way Vaccine*

- Usually a fatal neurological disease in horses which is transmitted by mosquitoes and birds.
- DVC recommends vaccinating all horses 1-2 times a year depending on your horse's use and travel.

Tetanus (aka Lockjaw) *Part of 3-Way Vaccine*

- Disease in horses caused by toxins produced from a bacteria when it is introduced into a wound. This bacteria is found throughout the world in soil and feces.
- DVC recommends vaccinating all horses yearly for tetanus. This vaccine should also be given after any type of puncture wound and some lacerations.

Equine Herpes Virus (aka Rhinopneumonitis)

- Fights a respiratory disease in horses. Can cause a fatal neurological disease and abortions in pregnant mares. Can be carried by animals showing no clinical signs.
- This is a core vaccine for all pregnant mares to be given at 5, 7, and 9 months of gestation. For other horses, it could be given 1-2 times yearly depending on the factors listed below.

Other vaccines are available for horses including Influenza, Strangles, and Potomac Horse Fever. These vaccines should be given if your horse is one or more of the following:

1. Under the age of 5
2. On a breeding farm
3. On a farm where there is a lot of horse movement on and off the property
4. A performance or a show horse



Foals should start vaccines at the age of 4 months. Booster vaccines should be given at 6 and 12 months. These vaccines can be discussed with your veterinarian depending on the above criteria.

Our Old Friends: How to Care for Older Pets



Many of us have started to notice that our dogs and cats are taking almost as many medications and supplements as we do. This is becoming much more common as dogs and cats are living longer than ever before thanks to better nutrition, better medical care, and better guardians who treat pets like a part of the family. The average life expectancy of a cat has nearly doubled since 1930, living up to 20 years-old and sometimes longer. Even dogs are living to 17 years-old which is the equivalent of 88 in human years.

Many of us wish to repay our four-legged friends for years of unconditional love and undying loyalty. Here are some tips to help elder animals get the care they need and deserve.

- ♥ **Give your pet senior diet products.** These diets are available at many pet stores or from your vet. Many of these foods contain supplements that help ease joint pain and other ailments older pets might have.
- ♥ **Make fresh water available at all times.** Many animals, especially cats, won't drink "old" water. There are many products out there to keep your cat from drinking out of the sink including water bubblers.
- ♥ **Play with your pet, but don't overdo it.** Regular exercise is good for joints and muscles, especially the heart. But, listen to your animal. If they seem to tire quickly or are having trouble breathing, stop play immediately and don't push them to do too much. They are not little puppies and kittens anymore.
- ♥ **Schedule regular check-ups** with a vet, and have blood work done periodically to help catch kidney and other diseases early.
- ♥ **Watch their weight.** Overweight dogs and cats don't live as long as their slimmer counterparts. Excessive weight can lead to problems such as joint disease and diabetes.
- ♥ **Keep that smile bright.** Dental hygiene is very important to all pets. Brushing teeth or giving veterinary approved dental treats can help keep tartar from leading to gum disease and oral infections. Teeth should be checked at every exam.
- ♥ **Groom your pet often.** Older animals tend to have drier skin as their natural oils don't distribute as well. Brushing daily and bathing dogs 1-2 times a month can help with their skin and coat. This also helps you to find lumps as soon as they appear.



Laughter is the Best Medicine

Two men are walking their dogs, a poodle and a German shepherd. They decide they'd like to go into a bar for a drink. "But, we can't bring our dogs into that bar," says the poodle's human. "Hey, no problem," says the German shepherd's human. "Watch this." He pulls out a pair of sun-glasses and walks into the bar. "Hey, no dogs," yells the bartender. "But, this is a seeing eye dog," says the German shepherd's human. The bartender apologizes and shows them to a chair. So, the poodle's human decides to follow suit, whips out his sunglasses, and walks into the bar. "Hey, no dogs," yells the bartender. "But, this is a seeing eye dog," says the poodle's human. The bartender objects, "Poodles can't be seeing eye dogs!" The poodle's human gasps, "Poodle? They told me they were giving me a German shepherd!"



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Services Offered At Deerfield Veterinary Clinic

- ▽ 24-Hour On-Call emergency Service for Large and Small Animals
- ▽ Flexible Scheduling to Accommodate Your Needs including Nights and Weekends
- ▽ Comprehensive Preventative Medicine for Family Pets, Horses, and Livestock
- ▽ Small Animal Routine and Elective Soft Tissue Surgery
- ▽ Digital Radiography to Aid in Rapid Diagnostics on the Road and in the Hospital
- ▽ Routine and Advanced Dental Care for Horses and Family Pets
- ▽ In-House Laboratory and In-House Pharmacy
- ▽ Hospital Facilities for Large and Small Animals in need of Overnight Treatment
- ▽ Friendly, Knowledgeable Staff Available to Help with the Needs of You and Your Pets