



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

Dear Friends , Clients, and Neighbors,

Summer is already here and we feel like we just finished shoveling snow. We know you have many places you could choose to bring your pet and we are grateful that you place your trust in us! Thanks to you, our clinic continues to grow. But with all this growth, our goal will always be to maintain the best medicine and client service out there!

Deerfield Veterinary Clinic is going green! (At least we are making an attempt at it.) We are using more all-natural products including our laundry detergent, hand soap, glass cleaner, and other surface cleaners. You and your pets safety is our number one concern and we will continue to use anti-viral and anti-bacterial cleaners to avoid spreading dangerous diseases. But, we will do our best to keep the environment a safer place as well. Our products come from Just Naturals & Co, a New Hampshire company. To get to their website, visit the “Friends of the Clinic” section at www.deerfieldvetclinic.com.

Also, our barn has been redone thanks to Richard Pitman and Center Hill Barns located here in Deerfield. Richard and his crew gave the place a sprucing up with four brand new stalls including one mare and foal stall that allows for more room for any mother and baby combo or for our larger horses. If you're in the area, stop by to visit and check out our facelift.

Thank you again for your trust in us and we look forward to a nice summer of taking care of you and your pets!

Sincerely,
Simon, Jenni, and Elayna George
And the Team at Deerfield Veterinary Clinic



Elayna enjoying an afternoon ride.



Simon Says...

“How do I keep my horse from having colic?”

- Deb Lindfors

First of all, we need to understand that colic is not a disease. It's a sign that a horse has abdominal pain. Colic can range from mild to severe and it should never be ignored. Signs include kicking at the stomach, sweating, rolling, stretching, not wanting to eat, and just not acting right. While every case is not avoidable, there are many things that can be done to reduce the risk.

To help avoid colic, you should establish a daily routine and stick to it. You also want to feed a high quality diet which should mostly be hay. You shouldn't feed excessive grain and dense supplements. Hay is best fed free-choice and grain and supplements should be split up into two or more rations throughout the day. Next, set up a regular parasite control program which includes a minimum of bi-annual fecals and appropriate deworming. To help with parasite control and sand colic, avoid putting hay on the ground, especially in sandy soils. You should also make sure your horse has plenty of fresh, clean water at all times. Finally, provide exercise and/or turnout on a daily basis. Any changes to an exercise program should be made gradually. This helps to reduce stress. Horses experiencing stress by changes to the environment or workload are at a higher risk of colic.

If you suspect your horse has colic, pull all food. You may walk your horse for 20-30 minutes. If you need to walk for longer, you need a veterinarian. Do not walk to the point of exhaustion. Do not give any medication until you consult your veterinarian.



Top Ten Pet Names

According to the ASPCA, the following are the top ten pet names for dogs and cats.

1. Max
2. Sam
3. Lady
4. Bear
5. Smokey
6. Shadow



7. Kitty
8. Molly
9. Buddy
10. Brandy



Lyme Disease: Questions Answered

Here are some answers to commonly asked questions about ticks and Lyme disease. Lyme disease can be handled in many different ways, and this outlines the treatment we recommend here at Deerfield Veterinary Clinic.

Q: What is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is a bacterial disease spread by ticks. It's most prevalent in the Northeast, but can be found across the United States. Lyme disease affects dogs, horses, and humans and is rare in other domestic animals.

Q: How does it spread?

A bite from a tick, most commonly the deer tick, transmits the bacteria to the host. Wooded, dense areas are common locations for ticks. When it's attached to its host, ticks can spread Lyme disease through their saliva. This is the only way to spread Lyme disease; it cannot be transmitted from another human or animal.

Q: What are the symptoms?

A rash may appear around the tick bite soon after the infection; however, it may not be noticeable under a lot of fur or hair. Other symptoms include fever, lethargy, swollen lymph nodes, loss of appetite, and limping. Some infected animals don't show any symptoms, making it difficult to diagnose. The disease can cause kidney inflammation, and it can damage the heart and nervous system in its later stages. Blood tests are often needed to diagnose the disease.

Q: How is it treated?

Antibiotics like doxycycline can help treat animals. Additional medications can help with pain and inflammation. Treatment can take a month or longer, and it's most successful when it's started within a few weeks of infection. It's possible for the bacteria to remain in the body long-term, leading to periodic flare-ups.

Q: How is it prevented?

It's best to avoid areas infested with ticks, which is very difficult in New Hampshire. Tick repellents are beneficial for people and pets, but be sure to read all labels carefully and follow safety precautions. We recommend using K9 Advantix or Frontline for dogs, Frontline Spray for horses, and Frontline for cats. After leaving a tick-infested area, check yourself and your pet thoroughly. You can remove attached ticks with tweezers or inexpensive tick removal tools.

Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull it straight out. Do not apply insecticide or a hot match—this may increase the amount of saliva released by the tick. After you remove the tick, clean the area with antiseptic soap and wash your hands. Horses have a tendency to have a more noticeable reaction at a tick bite site. You can use a warm compress to help bring down swelling. We also recommend the Lyme vaccine for all dogs living in New Hampshire.



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Laughter Is The Best Medicine

Bizarre Real Life Animal Laws (Part II)

- It is illegal for ducks to quack after 10pm in Essex Falls, NJ.
- In Pennsylvania, it is illegal to shoot bullfrogs on Sunday.
- You could be fined if your pig runs loose without the permission of a selectman in Vermont.
- In Kansas, it is illegal for chicken thieves to work during daylight hours.