



## "Straight From The Horse's Mouth"

### Wow! What a Winter...

Many people say we are having a 'normal' winter. Normal or not, I'm sure many of you will agree it has been much too frigid too many days in a row. The good news is that spring is knockin' on the door and I'm definately ready to let it in. Considering the severity of this winter's cold, the horse population seemed to fair very well. The horses probably faired better than us humans.

In addition to celebrating the upcoming spring, we are also celebrating our 10th Anniversary. Over these last ten years I have had the privilege of working with thousands of horses and their owners. One of the best parts of the job is that no day is the same and I am very blessed to share my days with the animals I hold most dear as well as their loving owners. Thank you for entrusting me with the health and well-being of your four legged family members!



### Please Remember...

As I'm sure with many of you, spring is a very busy time of year for us. Please remember that appointments book up fast. If you know you need vaccinations and/or coggins by a certain date be sure to plan enough time to get your results. Coggins testing is digital which cuts down on the turnaround time but plan on at least 7 days. For your convenience, we are able to e-mail your coggins results to you. No need to go to a separate site to print them off.



## 2014 Coggins Clinic Dates

- 1) Saturday, March 29th from 1pm - 4pm  
@ the Kanabec County Fairgrounds in Mora sponsored by the Kanabec 4-H Canter Club
- 2) Saturday, April 5th from 9am - 4pm  
@ Hi Circle Vee Arena in Isanti
- 3) Saturday, April 12th from 9am - 2pm  
@ the Isanti County Fairgrounds in Cambridge

## 10th Anniversary Client Appreciation Night

Join us THURSDAY, MARCH 27th and help celebrate our 10th anniversary!

I am very pleased to have Dr. Kyla Awes of Animal Integrative Care on hand. I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Awes not only on my own horses, but as a team with many of my patients as well. Dr. Awes will be discussing "Equine Chiropractic Care".



Dinner will be provided with social/registration @ 5pm, dinner @ 6pm, & presentation @7pm. There will be LOTS of door prizes to be given away including several \$\$\$ in Country Care Equine Gift Certificates.

Call (320) 679-8245 to RSVP. Be sure to see our website or our facebook page for location information.



# What are "Core" Vaccinations?



There are several diseases that are highly infective and even deadly if a horse were to become infected. "Core" vaccinations are the basis for any vaccination protocol. These vaccines will cover diseases that are considered to be a potential public health risk, such as rabies, those diseases that are also considered highly contagious and those posing a risk of severe disease.

The "core" vaccinations are a class of vaccine that have exhibited a high level of patient benefit and low risk of reactions. They include Rabies, West Nile, Tetanus, Eastern Encephalitis, and Western Encephalitis. EVERY HORSE, no matter what their job in life, from age four months to 35 years old and older should be vaccinated for these diseases. Is it really worth the risk of your horse becoming extremely sick or even dying over the cost of these simple "core" vaccinations? Good question!

## Rabies ~ is your horse at risk????



When we think of animals being infected with rabies, horses are not the first mammal that comes to our minds. Contrary to what you may have heard, horses can become infected with this fatal neurologic viral disease. Even though rabies is a relatively uncommon disease that plagues horses, it should be considered in a horse with neurologic disease, especially if the horse's mentation or attitude has changed.

The rabies virus is transmitted primarily through saliva contaminated wounds. In horses, the most common route of infection is a bite wound from a wild carnivore or bat carrying the virus. It is important to note that the source of infection is usually not apparent partially because the incubation period can vary from 9 days up to 1 year.

The clinical signs of rabies are highly variable. Initially horses may exhibit signs of self-mutilation and behavioral changes. Some horses exhibit hyperexcitability, fear, aggression, and may move around as if they don't know where they are. The clinical signs progress rapidly, and death occurs within 5 to 10 days after the onset of clinical signs. Every year there are horses in Minnesota dying due to rabies.

A very important point that should not be overlooked is that rabies is contagious to humans which makes it all that much more important to protect your horse as well as yourself. Vaccination of your horse is one such way to provide protection. As mentioned above, rabies is a "core" vaccination that can be administered at any time of the year. Unlike other vaccinations, the rabies vaccination must be administered by a veterinarian. With the health care risk to humans, it is not worth the risk to not vaccinate. I vaccinate my own horses because we do have wild animals roaming around our land and barn areas just like all of you and I want to keep my horses, as well as my family, safe.



## Woof, Woof ~ Meow



It's easy to get caught up preparing your horses for spring & summer, but lets not forget our small pets as well. It is important that they are up to date on all of their vaccinations including rabies, distemper, and lyme. I also highly recommend an annual heartworm test.

I offer small animal routine appointments and also carry both dog and cat vaccinations in my truck and would be more than happy to take care of your other animal family members while I am out caring for your horses. I also carry heartworm prevention.

Office appointments for dog & cat neuters and Cat spays are also available. Call and schedule an appointment today (320) 679-8245.

We are also pleased to announce that we are offering dog vaccinations at all of the 2014 coggins clinics.

## Service Areas

We have an extensive service area covering the counties of Kanabec, Isanti, Pine, Mille Lacs, portions of Anoka County, portions of Chisago County, and a small portion of Sherburne County. Some of the cities in Anoka, Chisago, and Sherburne Counties that we service include: Bethel, East Bethel, Cedar, Oak Grove, St. Francis, Nowthen, Zimmerman, Princeton, North Branch, Rush City, Sunrise, and Harris. If you live in one of these three counties and don't see your city listed, give us a call, we may be able to provide you with service.



# Business Hours

Monday ~ Friday 8am to 5pm  
Saturdays by appointment only  
Emergency Service Available

Any non-emergency phone messages received after regular business hours will be returned on the next business day.

Please also remember that payment is due when services are rendered. We accept cash, check, Visa, MC, Discover, & Am. Express.



American Association of Equine Practitioners

"The Horse Doctors"

Be sure to check out our website... we now offer **WELLNESS PLANS** to fit the needs of every horse!

[www.draumer.com](http://www.draumer.com)



## Remember...for your convenience ~

Country Care Equine is a full service ambulatory veterinary practice providing high quality veterinary care. In addition to the ambulatory services, we have a clinic facility equipped with a fully padded surgical room for various surgical procedures, and a set of stocks for routine work. With breeding season shortly upon us, it is a great opportunity to bring your mares to us for their pre-breeding mare care or artificial insemination. Call (320) 679-8245 to set up an appointment.



## Equine Dental Health

The dental health of our horses is something that can get overlooked very easily. Especially if they are easy keepers or in a younger age bracket. It used to be thought that teeth issues were only an 'old horse' problem or a 'skinny horse' problem. I'm here to tell you that's a myth. I have seen horses from yearlings up to and beyond 30 years old needing dental work. I have also worked on horses that were not only on the slender side, but the pleasantly plump side. Just because a horse is a 'little' or a 'lot' over weight does not mean they don't have major dental issues.

Not all horses will exhibit signs that they have an issue in their mouth or with their teeth which is why dental exams are so very important. However, if your horse is bothered by their mouth or teeth, they may drop hay or grain, turn their head to the side when they eat, or even exhibit problems when riding.



Sharp enamel points on the outside of the upper molars.




Incisors of a yearling.




Severe hook on the upper premolar.

Don't wait until your horse is having major problems with their mouth, call and schedule an appointment today (320) 679-8245.



*Our mission at Country Care Equine has always been to provide your horse with the highest quality of veterinary care in a compassionate way to maintain their health, performance and longevity. A primary focus is placed on client education and preventive medicine.*



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*Several important dates to remember are listed on the front page!*