



Woodside & Woodside North Equine Clinic Equine Health Times

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POTOMAC HORSE FEVER

By: Dr. Nora Grenager



What is our Staff up to?

Woodside Equine Clinic is pleased to announce the birth of LVT Leslie's second son, Wyatt! Both mom and baby are doing well!

"Hello, Woodside Equine Clinic..."

When you call the clinic, you may be speaking to our new scheduler, Jessica!

A new assistant has



<http://myhorse.com/blogs/horse-care/laminitis-horse-care/summer-months-bring-possibility-of-potomac-horse-fever-and-in-turn-laminitis/>

joined Woodside North,
Lindsey!

Dr. Tate recently attended
an AAEP meeting in
Minneapolis called Focus
on Ambulatory Medicine

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There have been several confirmed cases of Potomac horse fever (PHF) in our area. PHF is an infectious bacterial disease that affects horses during warm months, causing fever, poor appetite, lethargy, diarrhea, and laminitis in horses that live near rivers, streams, or irrigated pastures. A vaccine is available that reduces the severity of disease, cost of treatment, and risk of death due to disease. It does not completely prevent the disease. Treatment involves antibiotics and significant supportive care (IV fluids, anti-inflammatories, etc.)

Vaccine recommendations:

- For vaccinated horses in endemic areas: booster if it has been more than 3 months since the last vaccine
- For unvaccinated horses: administer a primary series of 2 doses, at a 3- to 4-week interval.
- For foals: there is a low risk of clinical disease in young foals and they should have antibodies from their mares. Therefore, vaccination for most foals can begin after 5 months of age. The manufacturer's recommendation is for a 2-dose series administered at a 3- to 4-week interval. A third dose at 12 months of age is recommended. If the primary series is started when foals are less than 5 months old, additional doses should be administered at monthly intervals up to 6 months of age to ensure that their body develops an appropriate response.

Management recommendations:

Remove standing water. Clean water tanks and buckets frequently to remove dead bugs. Turn off your barn lights at night when not needed (lights attract insects, especially may flies, which can carry the disease).

If you are concerned that your horse is showing signs of PHF, please call your veterinarian immediately (our number WEC : 804-798-3281, WNEC (540) 423-3100). Prompt, appropriate, and aggressive treatment is necessary.

If you would like to schedule a booster vaccination for your horse, or inquire as to the date of your horse's last vaccine, please call us at the office: WEC 804-798-3281, WNEC (540) 423-3100.

Blog: Diaries of a Veterinary Intern

Hello from the New Interns:
Drs. Sullivan and Velting



Dr. Katy Sullivan (left) and Dr. Abigail Velting (right) are excited to join WEC for the next year. Learn more about them on the the intern blog!

[Diaries of a Veterinary Intern](#)

Our practice devotes its charitable giving efforts to the AAEP foundation. The foundation is committed to supporting education, research and benevolent efforts for horses and their caretakers. If you'd like more information or to donate to the Foundation you can visit the website at [AAEP Foundation](#).



Sincerely,

Woodside & Woodside North Equine Clinic