



# WHAT DOES MY HORSE NEED?

A guide to annual care recommendations  
from Premier Equine Veterinary Service

## Vaccines

### SPRING:

*Recommended Vaccines for all horses:*

-EEE, WEE, WNV, Tetanus, Flu, Rhino

*Optional Vaccines:*

-Strangles vaccine: recommended if travelling/competing or at a large boarding facility

-Potomac Horse Fever: transmitted by flies that live in water.

Recommended for horses stabled near water, and/or travelling on the East Coast

### FALL:

*Recommended for all horses:*

-Rabies Vaccine

*Optional vaccines:*

-Flu/Rhino booster: for horses travelling, at boarding facilities, or exposed to other horses

## Dental

A dental exam and float with sedation from a veterinarian is recommended **at least once yearly** (more if abnormalities exist). This can be done during the spring or fall vaccine exam, or any other point.

For geldings, many owners choose to have the sheath cleaned after the dental while the gelding is sedated.

## Deworming

A fecal egg count (taken from a fecal sample) is recommended **once to twice yearly** to assess parasite load.

Deworming should be performed at least in spring and fall, with one of these including ivermectin (bots) and praziquantel (tapeworms). For horses with low parasite counts, this is all that is needed. If fecal egg count is high, recommendations will be made to deworm more frequently.



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## Coggins

A blood test to check for Equine Infectious Anemia (transmitted by mosquitos/blood, with no cure). Proof of negative blood test is required **once a year** for horses travelling (in or out of state). Many barn facilities also require a current coggins for boarders.

## *Special Circumstances*

### Health Certificate

Horses will only need a health certificate when they are travelling out of state, or if a specific show requires one. Like coggins, these are USDA regulated, so very specific guidelines must be followed. A basic physical exam is performed, and the horse must have a current coggins. If the horse is healthy, the veterinarian will then fill out the health form. It **MUST** be written within 10 days of exam and is good for 30 days, meaning that they are usually good only for a specific trip and you should know where and when you are going and who is hauling before scheduling the exam. The horse's current location, destination address and phone, and hauler's address and phone are all needed to list on the health certificate.

### Treating Pregnant Mares and Foals

Mares and foals have special vaccination and deworming schedules that differ slightly from a typical riding horse. If your horse falls into one of these categories, we can discuss an appropriate schedule with you.