

# Wisconsin Valley Veterinary Service



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## Vaccination & Deworming Schedules for Horses

**\*Keep Vaccines Refrigerated Until They Are Used\***

**\*Make sure that when you are starting or restarting your horse's vaccinations, you follow the recommended booster schedule\***

### **1. “Stay At Home” Horses**

- a. West Nile, Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus (EWT-WNV or “Mosquito 4-way)
- b. Equine Rabies

For the above vaccines, give first vaccine in March or early April, booster 3-4 weeks later. Vaccinate annually in March or April for the following years. Consider a booster West Nile vaccine in early October if the mosquito season is extended.

### **2. “Occasional Exposure” To Other Horses**

- a. West Nile, Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus (EWT-WNV or “Mosquito 4-way)
- b. Equine Rabies
- c. Influenza & Rhinopneumonitis (respiratory Herpes virus) (Rhino-Flu)
- d. Consider using Strangles (intramuscular or intranasal)

For the above vaccines, give first vaccine in March or early April, booster 3-4 weeks later. Vaccinate annually in March or April for the following years. Consider a booster West Nile vaccine in early October if the mosquito season is extended. Booster Rhino/Flu every 8-12 weeks, if high exposure.

### **3. “Horses At Shows & Competitions, Mares Going Out To Be Bred”**

- a. West Nile, Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus (EWT-WNV or “Mosquito 4-way)
- b. Equine Rabies
- c. Influenza & Rhinopneumonitis (respiratory Herpes virus) (Rhino-Flu)
- d. Strangles (intramuscular or intranasal)

For the above vaccines, give first vaccine in March or early April, booster 3-4 weeks later. Vaccinate annually in March or April for the following years. Consider a booster West Nile vaccine in early October if the mosquito season is extended. Booster Flu/Rhino every 8-12 weeks, during show season.

### **4. For “Pregnant Mares”: Use one of the three above protocols, PLUS the following:**

- a. Abortive Rhino (EHV-1p & EHV-1b) at 5, 7, and 9 months of gestation
- b. Booster 4-6 weeks before due date: West Nile, Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus (EWT-WNV or “Mosquito 4-way)

### **5. For Foals**

- a. If mare was vaccinated, start vaccines at 4-6 months of age.
- b. If mare was NOT vaccinated, start vaccines at 2-3 months of age.
- c. Deworm starting at 1-2 months of age. Repeat every month until winter.

### **6. Deworming Adult Horses**

- a. Every 3-6 months depending on age, general health, exposure levels in their environment, etc.
- b. A routine fecal analysis or fecal egg count is beneficial for determining parasite burden, therefore helping to decide type and frequency of dewormer use.
- c. Talk with our Veterinarians about setting up a deworming protocol specifically for your barn!

### **7. Rabies Protocol**

If you want the State of Wisconsin to legally recognize that your horse is Rabies vaccinated, one of our Veterinarians must administer the Rabies vaccine to your horse. We will then record in our medical records that you horse is vaccinated and have the ability to print out a Rabies Certificate. A veterinarian must administer the Rabies vaccine to ensure the legal system and the state recognizes that it was done correctly. We suggest that you follow this protocol if your horse is in contact with the public.

If your horse is not in contact with the public, but you want to protect your horse from Rabies that may be contracted from a bat or wild mammal, you may consider administering the vaccine yourself.