

Equine Vaccine Recommendations!



Want to know what to vaccinate your horses for? Just ask the vet! Minnesota Valley Veterinary Services has created this list for our area.

1. **Eastern/Western Encephalitis** (Sleeping Sickness) – recommended for ALL HORSES
2. **West Nile Virus** – recommended for ALL HORSES
3. **Tetanus** – recommended for ALL HORSES

These first three vaccines are in combination to make up the 4-Way vaccine that Minnesota Valley Veterinary Services carries. These diseases can be fatal to your horse.

4. **Flu/Rhino** – recommended for MOST HORSES, especially if they are exposed to other horses while showing, trail riding, new horses into the barn, etc. This vaccine is to help prevent respiratory disease.
5. **Rhino** – (by itself) given to PREGNANT mares at 5, 7 and 9 months of gestation to help prevent abortions.
6. **Rabies** – recommended for ALL HORSES, especially those that are in a high-risk area.
7. **Strangles** – recommended for horses that are going to be exposed to other horses through showing, trail riding, etc.
8. **Potomac Horse Fever** – recommended for horses that will be traveling to an endemic area.
9. **Equine Protozoal Myelitis (EPM)** – we do not currently use this vaccine on many horses as it interferes with the disease testing. Please call with specific questions on this vaccine.



Fecal Sand Test!

Sand Problem? How do you know if your horse is ingesting too much sand? There is a simple test that you can do at home to help determine if you might have a problem. Horses that get too much sand in their diet can have problems with feed absorption and colic. Here's a general guideline to test your horse for sand consumption. Of course, if you believe that your horse has an immediate problem, contact your veterinarian!

1. Collect 5-6 fresh fecal balls and place them in a CLEAN bucket.
2. Fill the bucket about half full of water.
3. Let the mixture sit for at least one hour.
4. Pour off the water and measure the amount of sand left in the bottom of the bucket.
5. If you collect more than 1 tablespoon of sand, you have the potential to have sand colic problems. Contact your veterinarian for appropriate sand removing product.