

Elective Vaccines

Equine Herpes Virus (“Rhino”): A highly contagious respiratory virus, generally causing an upper respiratory infection. Also has potential to cause a neurologic syndrome as well as abortion in pregnant mares. The virus is transmitted from horse to horse by aerosolized nasal secretions. The vaccine is recommended for horses exposed to a diverse population of other horses, through showing, travel, or boarding situations; it is also recommended for all pregnant mares.

Influenza: Another highly contagious respiratory virus, which causes an upper respiratory infection. Transmitted from horse to horse by aerosolized nasal secretions, the vaccine is recommended for horses showing, travelling or boarding

Potomac Horse Fever: A bacterial infection transmitted by water-dwelling insects, generally found in marshy areas. This infection can cause fever, diarrhea and/or laminitis. The vaccine is not 100% effective in preventing disease, but is thought to lessen signs. The vaccine is recommended for horses living in marshy areas, near rivers or ponds.

Please note: *This is not an exhaustive list. Other vaccinations may be recommended based on your horse’s situation; please speak to a veterinarian directly for more information.*



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Vaccination Recommendations:

Adult Horses



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Vaccination Guidelines

Vaccines are broken up into “core” vaccines, which are recommended at least once yearly for all horses, and “elective” vaccines, which may be recommended based on specific circumstances.

***Please note:** This is a basic guide for this area. We are happy to discuss your specific situation and create a unique vaccination plan that will best suite your horses.*

Core Vaccines

Rabies: This neurologic disease is 100% fatal, and is transmissible to humans (“zoonotic”). It is transmitted by the bite/saliva of an infected animal.

Eastern/Western Equine Encephalitis:

Another neurologic disease which is nearly always fatal. Humans can also contract this disease; it is transmitted by mosquitoes.

Tetanus: A neuromuscular disease caused by a bacterial infection usually associated with puncture wounds. This bacteria is common in equine environments, and the disease is usually fatal and/or very expensive to treat.

West Nile Virus: Another neurologic disease caused by mosquitoes, which humans can also contract. This disease is usually fatal to horses and/or very expensive to treat.

General Vaccination Schedule

Vaccine	Routinely Vaccinated Horses	Previously Unvaccinated Horses	Broodmares (Routinely Vaccinated)
Rabies	Once yearly – we recommend separately from “spring shots”	Single dose, revaccinate annually	Vaccinate before breeding or in last 4-6 weeks of pregnancy
▲ Eastern/Western Encephalitis	Once yearly in spring before mosquitoes emerge.	2 dose series: 2 nd dose 4 weeks after 1 st dose. Revaccinate in spring.	Once yearly in last 4-6 weeks of pregnancy
▲ Tetanus	Once yearly, booster if a wound occurs more than 6 months after vaccination.	2 dose series: 2 nd dose 4 weeks after 1 st dose. Revaccinate annually, or if wound occurs.	Once yearly in last 4-6 weeks of pregnancy
▲ West Nile Virus	Once yearly in spring before mosquitoes emerge.	2 dose series: 2 nd dose 4 weeks after 1 st dose. Revaccinate in spring.	Once yearly in last 4-6 weeks of pregnancy
● EHV (Rhino)	Booster one month prior to showing/travel, or twice yearly.	3 dose series, 4 weeks apart. Revaccinate once or twice yearly.	Booster at 5, 7 and 9 months of gestation.
● Influenza	Booster one month prior to showing/travel, or twice yearly.	3 dose series, 4 weeks apart. Revaccinate once or twice yearly.	Twice yearly, one dose in last 4-6 weeks of pregnancy
Potomac Horse Fever	Once yearly in spring or early summer	2 dose series, 4 weeks apart. Revaccinate once yearly.	Once yearly in last 4-6 weeks of gestation

We carry the following vaccine combinations:

- ▲ Eastern/Western Encephalitis, Tetanus and West Nile Virus (E/W/T + WNV)
- EHV and Influenza (Rhino/Flu)

Twin Pines Equine recommends splitting the vaccinations into at least two groups throughout the year, to reduce the immune system strain of giving 5-8 vaccines at one time. For example, the E/W/T+WNV vaccine may be given in March or April, and Rabies, PHF and Rhino/Flu may be given in June. Consult a veterinarian directly to create a schedule that is best for your horses!