

EQUINE WINTER WELLNESS

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EMPOWERING WINTER WARRIORS!

HORSES ARE CREATURES OF HABIT!

- We have domesticated them away from their wild ancestors
- We keep them in artificial conditions which make it hard for them to adjust to any form of seasonal change naturally.
- But we can help ease the season's struggles with our science, forethought, planning and teamwork!

LITTLE AND OFTEN

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW/ WINTER CHECKLIST

- Medical Preparation
- Housing/ Shelter
- Blanketing
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Common Conditions: Colic, Scratches, Hoof Abscesses, and more!

WINTER WORRIES!

PRACTICAL ISSUES



MEDICAL ISSUES

- Muddy Paddocks
- Muddy Horses
- Changing Exercise / Showing Schedules
- More Time Inside!
- Blanket or Not to Blanket?

- Weight Loss
- Colic
- Acute Lameness
- Fevers / Coughs / Nasal Discharge
- Choke
- Rain Scald / Scratches
- Hoof Abscesses
- Loose manure

PREVENTATIVE HEALTHCARE = WINTER WELLNESS APPOINTMENT

VETERINARY EXAMINATION

- Ideally Sept / Oct / Nov
(good year-round reminders)
- Bloodwork: Creatinine, ACTH/Insulin
- Vaccinations: F/R + Rabies (ideally)
- Dental Exam + Routine Float
- Fecal Egg Count to determine deworming schedule and type

AAEP Internal Parasite Control Guidelines

<https://aaep.org/resource/internal-parasite-control-guidelines/>



OWNER'S WINTER CHECKLIST

- Footing? Drainage?
- Underlying Injuries?
- Turnout? Safe? Bullies?
- Dietary Requirements?
- Ongoing Conditions: Osteo-Arthritis, Cushings, etc.
- Water Sources? Warm Water Option?
- Pain Management



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EQUINE CLINICS

MUDDY PADDOCKS/ FOOTING/ DRAINAGE

ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS

- Foot Abscess
- Broken Legs
- “Down Horse”
- Scratches
- Rain Scalding

What can we do to prevent these?

- Rubber Matting
- Good Drainage
- Clean, Dry Shavings
- Shelter / Overhang / Stall
- Stay on Top of Pain Management / Ongoing Conditions

OUR SENIOR FRIENDS NEED SPECIAL CARE

- Diet
- Supplements
- Exercise
- Medications
- Treats! Not too many :)
- Social Time!



IN SHORT - TREAT YOUR PONY AS YOU LIKE
TO BE TREATED YOURSELF.



EXERCISE

- More Challenging
- More Important
- Little and Often
- Safe Footing
- Clean and Dry Legs!



NUTRITION + HYDRATION

- Ample Water Sources
- Warm Water
- Soupy Mash
- Little and Often



SUPPLEMENTS!



COLIC PREVENTION!

- Routine
- Little and Often
- Hydration
- Exercise
- Medications
- Minimize Dietary Changes
- Socialize
- Environmental enrichment
- LOVE!





QUESTIONS?

CONTACT
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