



# EQUINE GUELPH HEALTH *flash*



YOUR SEASONAL HEALTHCARE REMINDER

Fall 2015

## Greetings!

Share this important information with friends and help support horse welfare.



## FALL IS HERE - ARE YOU READY?

### FEELS LIKE FALL Projects to finish



#### • Paddock Preparation

Ensure winter water supply - **ready your system**. Check **fencing** is in good repair and free from over hanging foliage. Determine if your paddock needs weed control, reseeding, rest or preservation. Hoof traffic can be especially damaging to grass with fresh frost. Ready the **sacrifice paddocks!**

#### • Take Stock of your Stock

Assess **body condition score (BCS)** before temperatures plummet and check your horse is not packing parasites. **Bots** are doing their best to make your horse a host in the fall. Horses under a body condition of 4 may have a high worm burden or other issues that need addressing.



### Top Seasonal Tips

1. *Hay test* - So you purchased soft, green, fresh-smelling hay that your horse is consuming with gusto but there are variances in forage quality and changes in nutrients from batch to batch. **Testing your hay** will enable you to accurately balance rations.
2. *Manure pile malady* - Reduce odors, fly breeding grounds and your environmental hoof print with **storage solutions**. Learn more with Equine Guelph's Stewardship of the Equine Environment **online course**.
3. *Negative bridle reactions* - A change in attitude toward bridling or avoidance of the bit can point to underlying dental issues. It is common to have teeth checked twice a year especially in young horses, older equines and

Equine Guelph's [Horse Health Tracker App](#) can help you monitor BCS, weight and assess health.

• **Combat Colic**

Fall marks the start of temperature and forage supply changes. The gut of a horse needs about two weeks to adjust as they shift from moisture rich grass to an increased consumption of dry hay. [Read archived article...](#)

competition mounts. [More on dentistry in Equine Guelph's fact sheet archive.](#)

4. *Vaccinate* - Fall is vaccination time for foals. Get your personalized schedule with [Vaccination Equi-planner](#).
5. *Restock First Aid* - While you are relocating items that may freeze into a warmer storage area; now is a great time to check supplies. [Equine Guelph's First Aid Kit](#) comes with a handy inventory list.
6. *Check blanket inventory* - Are they clean and in good repair?

For more information on online educational courses - [click here](#)

Please note: This information provides guidelines only and should never replace information from your veterinarian.

**TAKE YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO THE NEXT LEVEL**

**Surveys**

Last issue we asked: Do you practice calendar-based rotational deworming?



52% of you answered yes.

We love your feedback. Thanks for participating.

Next - Equine Guelph wants your input on our new [Equine Guelph Infection Control resources](#)

[Take this 2 minute Survey](#)

**Helpful Video**



International expert Dr. Scott Weese points out keys to infection control at a training centre in this five minute video.

Access all new Equine Guelph Infection Control Resources on our [new web page](#).

**2015 "YEAR OF FULL-CIRCLE-RESPONSIBILITY"**

**Code of Practice - Decoded**



**Do You know the Code? For the Care and Handling of Equines**

Equine Guelph's Code Decoder is a new healthcare tool comprised of a series of checklists based on the Code or Practice. There are a total of 9 sections and it will take you approximately 15 minutes to complete.

## Change or End of Career

Many horses enjoy more than one career in their lifetime such as a racehorse becoming a competitive eventer or a show horse enjoying a more laid back career as a lesson horse. The measures taken to reduce wear and tear in their debut to the working world significantly impacts their usefulness and quality of life in later years. [Read on...](#)

Check [Code requirements](#) and read Equine Guelph's [fact sheet](#) and [article](#) for managing athletes into their second career.

The CODE DECODER is a fast, easy way to learn the National Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines.



## Industry Partners

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