

Equine Health, Disease & Disaster Resources

American Association of Equine Practitioners:
<https://aaep.org/horse-owners>

Equine Disease Communication Center (EDCC):
<http://www.equinediseasecc.org>

Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN):
<https://eden.lsu.edu>

Montana Department of Livestock:
<http://liv.mt.gov>; 406-444-7323

Montana Veterinary Medical Association:
<http://www.mtvma.org>

USDA APHIS Animal Disease Information:
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animal-health/animal-disease-information/equine>

USDA APHIS Animal Health Emergency Management: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergency-management>

USDA Import Export:
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/import-export/animal-import-and-export/equine>

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Annual Health Checklist

☒ **Veterinary Exam & Health Consultation**
Vaccinations, nutrition, dental, parasite (internal & external) control, hoof care, risk factor discussion (travel, disease exposure risk, incoming & returning horse protocols/procedures), biosecurity planning (at home & on the road), feed, water, and general health safety/security

☒ **Brand Inspection (Proof of Ownership)**
Required crossing county lines in Montana. (branded or not branded)

☒ **Pay Per Capita Fee to Dept. of Livestock**
*Protects your livestock and your family. Trace disease outbreaks, recover stolen livestock, promote animal health. **IT'S THE LAW!***

☒ **Farrier Consult**
Discuss and schedule hoof care

☒ **Evacuation & Sheltering Planning**
Know what you are going to do! Talk with your Emergency Disaster Coordinator.

MT	U.S.	Equine Travel Checklist
✓	✓	Brand inspection paperwork
✓	✓	Safe food & water plan
	✓	Health certificate (within 30 days) OR equine passport (6 months)
	✓	Coggins testing and paperwork
✓	✓	First Aid kit
✓	✓	Trailer loading & unloading training

Brought to you by:



Equine Health Disease & Risk Management

Protect Your Horse. Protect Yourself.



THE DISEASE	SIGNS & SYMPTOMS	ROUTE DISEASE SPREADS	TEST/VAC/TREAT	CONSEQUENCES
Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA)	Difficult to diagnose. Symptoms differ. Fever, depression, swelling in legs, chest, & abdomen, off feed, fatigue.	Biting insects, contaminated equipment (needles/syringes), horse to horse contact.	Contact your vet. Coggins (AGID) testing every 6-12 months.	Anemia leading to death. Euthanasia required. Quarantine (state authorized).
Sleeping Sickness Eastern/Western Encephalitis (EEE/WEE) ZOONOTIC	Fever, depression, behavior changes, muscle twitches, circling or head pressing, inability to swallow, impaired vision.	Biting insects (mosquito or tick)	Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.	EEE = Death WEE = 70-80% survival rate
West Nile Virus (WNV) ZOONOTIC	Incoordination, depression, off feed, droopy lip, muscle tremors, hyperesthesia, weakness in hind limbs, sweating colic, low grade fever.	Mosquito bites an infected bird and transmits the disease to a horse. WNV cannot be spread from horse to horse, the horse is considered a dead end host.	Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.	30% of unvaccinated horses will die even with treatment.
Tetanus (Clostridium tetani)	“Lock jaw” stiffness, muscle spasms, extreme sensitivity to the environmental stimulation, prolapse 3rd eye lid.	Organism in the soil and manure; enters through open wound usually a puncture wound.	Vaccination preventable. Contact your vet.	Death to 50% Early treatment will result in better outcomes.
Herpesvirus Rhinophneumonitis (Rhino)	EHV4 respiratory, EHV1 reproductive (abortions) & neurologic. High fever of 102F to 107F.	Highly infectious. Secretions from infected horses (breathe or ingest), aborted fetus exposure, contaminated equipment.	Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.	Ill, very ill, abortions & death. Quarantine.
Influenza	Sudden high fever, coughing, clear runny nasal discharge, swelling lymph nodes.	Horse to horse contact, wind carried contamination via inhalation. Secondary bacterial infection likely.	Preventable. Vaccinate 3-6 month intervals. Supportive care.	Quarantine. Usually complete recovery with treatment & rest.
Strangles (Strep equi)	Upper respiratory infection, head & neck lymph node swelling & abscesses, nasal discharge.	Highly contagious horse to horse contact and wind transmission.	Contact your vet. Quarantine sick for 1-2 months.	Mild to life threatening. Environment contaminated.
Rabies ZOONOTIC	Acute behavioral changes: distressed, agitated, depression, lethargic, neurological	Horse to horse secretions, infected wild animal bites, contaminated equipment.	Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.	Death. Quarantine. Humans seek immediate medical attention.
Potomac Horse Fever	Depression, fever, diarrhea, dehydration abortions, laminitis. Spring through Fall.	Ingestion of infected insects (May & Caddis) flies or infected flukes.	Contact your vet.	Mild to life threatening.
Anthrax ZOONOTIC	Sudden death, bloating, bleeding from orifices. Infective spores released when carcass is opened.	Contaminated soil, other carcasses. All mammals are susceptible. Follows drought or flooding.	Contact your vet. Reportable disease.	Death. Quarantine. Vaccinate remainder of the herd.
Vesicular Stomatitis Virus ZOONOTIC	Blisters on mouth, tongue, nose, lips, also coronary bands, udder, sheath, or ears.	Biting insects, contact with lesions or saliva (horse to horse contact), sharing water & feed containers.	Contact your vet. Reportable disease.	Recover fully. Supportive care during open lesions. Quarantine.

***Zoonotic: Disease shared between animals and humans.** *All vaccinations are environment, travel, and use specific so consult with your local veterinarian.

*Isolate all new animals, as well as those animals returning to the premises for 3 weeks to limit disease spread.