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


MSU Assistant Professor Equine Science: Amanda N. Bradbery, PhD amanda.bradbery@montana.edu; 406-994-7689

Animal Health & Disaster Information: Dr. Jeanne Rankin, DVM jrankindvm@msn.com; 406-465-5142

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
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☑️ | ☑️ | 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

Equine Health Disease & Risk Management
Protect Your Horse. Protect Yourself.

Brought to you by:

Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Montana Veterinary Medical Association
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<th>THE DISEASE</th>
<th>SIGNS &amp; SYMPTOMS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA)</td>
<td>Difficult to diagnose. Symptoms differ: Fever, depression, swelling in legs, chest, &amp; abdomen, off feed, fatigue.</td>
<td>Biting insects, contaminated equipment (needles/syringes), horse to horse contact.</td>
<td>Contact your vet. Coggins (AGID) testing every 6-12 months.</td>
<td>Anemia leading to death. Euthanasia required. Quarantine (state authorized).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sleeping Sickness Eastern/Western Encephalitis (EEE/WEE) ZOONOTIC</td>
<td>Fever, depression, behavior changes, muscle twitches, circling or head pressing, inability to swallow, impaired vision.</td>
<td>Biting insects (mosquito or tick)</td>
<td>Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.</td>
<td>EEE = Death WEE = 70-80% survival rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Nile Virus (WNV) ZOONOTIC</td>
<td>Incoordination, depression, off feed, droopy lip, muscle tremors, hyperesthesia, weakness in hind limbs, sweating colic, low grade fever.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.</td>
<td>30% of unvaccinated horses will die even with treatment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tetanus (Clostridium tetani)</td>
<td>“Lock jaw” stiffness, muscle spasms, extreme sensitivity to the environmental stimulation, prolapse 3rd eye lid.</td>
<td>Organism in the soil and manure; enters through open wound usually a puncture wound.</td>
<td>Vaccination preventable. Contact your vet.</td>
<td>Death to 50% Early treatment will result in better outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herpesvirus Rhinophneumonitis (Rhino)</td>
<td>EHV4 respiratory, EHV1 reproductive (abortions) &amp; neurologic. High fever of 102F to 107F.</td>
<td>Highly infectious. Secretions from infected horses (breathe or ingest), aborted fetus exposure, contaminated equipment.</td>
<td>Vaccination preventable. Supportive care.</td>
<td>Ill, very ill, abortions &amp; death. Quarantine.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influenza</td>
<td>Sudden high fever, coughing, clear runny nasal discharge, swelling lymph nodes.</td>
<td>Horse to horse contact, wind carried contamination via inhalation. Secondary bacterial infection likely.</td>
<td>Preventable. Vaccinate 3-6 month intervals. Supportive care.</td>
<td>Quarantine. Usually complete recovery with treatment &amp; rest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strangles (Strep equi)</td>
<td>Upper respiratory infection, head &amp; neck lymph node swelling &amp; abscesses, nasal discharge.</td>
<td>Highly contagious horse to horse contact and wind transmission.</td>
<td>Contact your vet. Quarantine sick for 1-2 months.</td>
<td>Mild to life threatening. Environment contaminated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potomac Horse Fever</td>
<td>Depression, fever, diarrhea, dehydration abortions, laminitis. Spring through Fall.</td>
<td>Ingestion of infected insects (May &amp; Caddis) flies or infected flukes.</td>
<td>Contact your vet.</td>
<td>Mild to life threatening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthrax ZOONOTIC</td>
<td>Sudden death, bloating, bleeding from orifices. Infective spores released when carcass is opened.</td>
<td>Contaminated soil, other carcasses. All mammals are susceptible. Follows drought or flooding.</td>
<td>Contact your vet. Reportable disease.</td>
<td>Death. Quarantine. Vaccinate remainder of the herd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vesicular Stomatitis Virus ZOONOTIC</td>
<td>Blisters on mouth, tongue, nose, lips, also coronary bands, udder, sheath, or ears.</td>
<td>Biting insects, contact with lesions or saliva (horse to horse contact), sharing water &amp; feed containers.</td>
<td>Contact your vet. Reportable disease.</td>
<td>Recover fully. Supportive care during open lesions. Quarantine.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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.