



# The Grayson Grazette

Volume 8, spring 2019

A newsletter for Junior members of



Grayson-Jockey Club  
Research Foundation.

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Admiral loves to hear from his fans.  
You can tell him about you  
and your horse at  
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The Grayson Grazette is the digital  
newsletter for Junior Members of the



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501(c)(3) organization

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## Why Vaccinate Your Horse?

Have you ever stopped to consider why we vaccinate our horses - or ourselves, or our dogs and cats? Vaccines are meant to create and maintain immunity against specific diseases. In other words, vaccines are meant to reduce an animal's risk of getting sick, and if they do get sick after vaccination, then the severity of the disease should be lessened and they may be less contagious. The vaccine is usually a modified, weaker version of the disease you are trying to prevent. When the vaccine is given to your horse, their body creates antibodies to fight this "mock disease", and these antibodies will stay in the body for a period of time after the vaccination. Now your horse is armed with a defense system ready to go if they do encounter the actual disease!



Vaccines are created for specific diseases for a few different reasons. A disease might have a high fatality rate, such as tetanus. Or a disease might be highly contagious and easily spread from horse to horse, such as influenza or strangles. Finally, a disease may have the possibility to spread across different species (these are called zoonotic diseases), such as West Nile Virus or rabies.

### Which Vaccines Are Available for My Horse?

Equine vaccines are categorized by the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) as either core vaccines or risk-based vaccines. Core vaccines are vaccines that every single horse should receive, every year. Risk-based vaccines are vaccines that you may or may not administer to your horse, depending on a variety of factors (location, travel expectations, odds of exposure, etc).

### So Which Vaccines Does My Horse Need This Spring?

The short but frustrating answer to this is: it depends! Keep in mind that for previously vaccinated, adult horses, the vaccines listed above need to be given on either an annual or semi-annual basis in order to be most effective. For example, if your horse

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# Why Vaccinate Your Horse?

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received their rabies vaccine in the fall, then they do not need to receive the rabies vaccine the following spring, since the rabies vaccine is given on an annual basis.

The vaccines that SHOULD be given in the spring are the ones that prevent against diseases spread by insects such as mosquitoes. As the weather warms up, insects reemerge, and the risk of being infected by diseases that they carry will increase. West Nile Virus and EEE/WEE are both transmitted by mosquitoes, so these vaccines should be given prior to the start of “mosquito season”.

List of vaccines available for horses

## Core Vaccines

Rabies  
Tetanus  
West Nile Virus  
EEE/WEE

## Risk-based Vaccines

Equine Influenza  
Strangles  
Equine Herpesvirus (*Rhinopneumonitis*)  
Potomac Horse Fever  
Botulism  
Equine Viral Arteritis  
Anthrax  
Rotavirus  
Snake Bite  
Leptospirosis

If you are planning on showing your horse or taking them off the farm to public places, then you should consider some of the risk-based vaccines. Strangles, equine influenza, and equine herpesvirus (EHV) are respiratory diseases that are easily spread from horse to horse and are diseases that are routinely seen where there is a high density of horses, like showgrounds. These diseases are also seen at barns where horses routinely come and go, so even if your horse is not leaving the grounds, other horses could contract diseases and bring them back home, where they could potentially infect their stablemates.



## Important Considerations and Conclusions

You should always consult with your veterinarian to develop a vaccine plan for your horse. Again, ALL horses should receive the core vaccines (rabies, EEE/WEE, tetanus, and West Nile Virus). The risk-based vaccines will depend on if your horse travels, your geographic location, breeding status, and other considerations. Talk with your vet to determine

your horse’s risk level for each disease; do not simply give your horse every vaccine available, since this could be costly and unnecessary.

Vaccines guidelines do vary slightly between adult horses, broodmares, and foals, as well as for horses that have never been vaccinated. Be sure to follow the AAEP guidelines for your horse’s vaccination schedule. Remember that it can take several weeks after giving a vaccine for your horse to be protected, so plan accordingly based on the weather and your travel plans.

## Resources

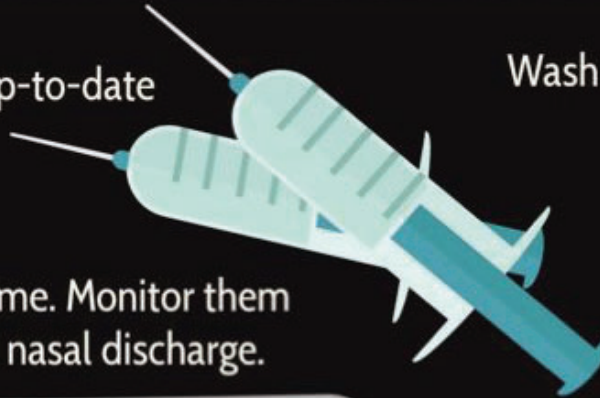
For complete, up to date information on equine vaccines, visit the AAEP Vaccination Guidelines.



# Biosecurity

## Tips for the show season

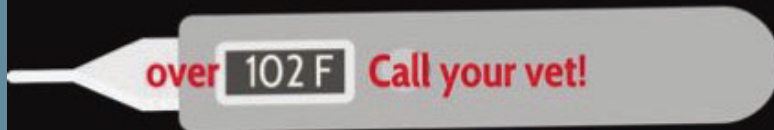
Keep your horse up-to-date on vaccines.



Wash your hands often!



Keep sick horses at home. Monitor them for fever, diarrhea and nasal discharge.



Separate and monitor:

- returning horses for
- new horses for



Don't share

- Feed or water buckets
- Grooming tools
- Manure forks
- Hay bags
- Tack



Before working with horses kept at home:

- Wash your hands
- Shower
- Change clothes and footwear



Clean and disinfect stalls at the show facilities.

Limit exposure

- Avoid nose-to-nose contact between horses
- Limit the general public's contact with your horses
- Limit your contact with other horses





# Chalk Horse

This is an easy project that can bring hours of fun.

You can use a new plastic model horse or if you have a model that needs a make over, use that. Using chalk board paint, have an adult help you paint your horse completely. You may want two coats, letting them dry in between.

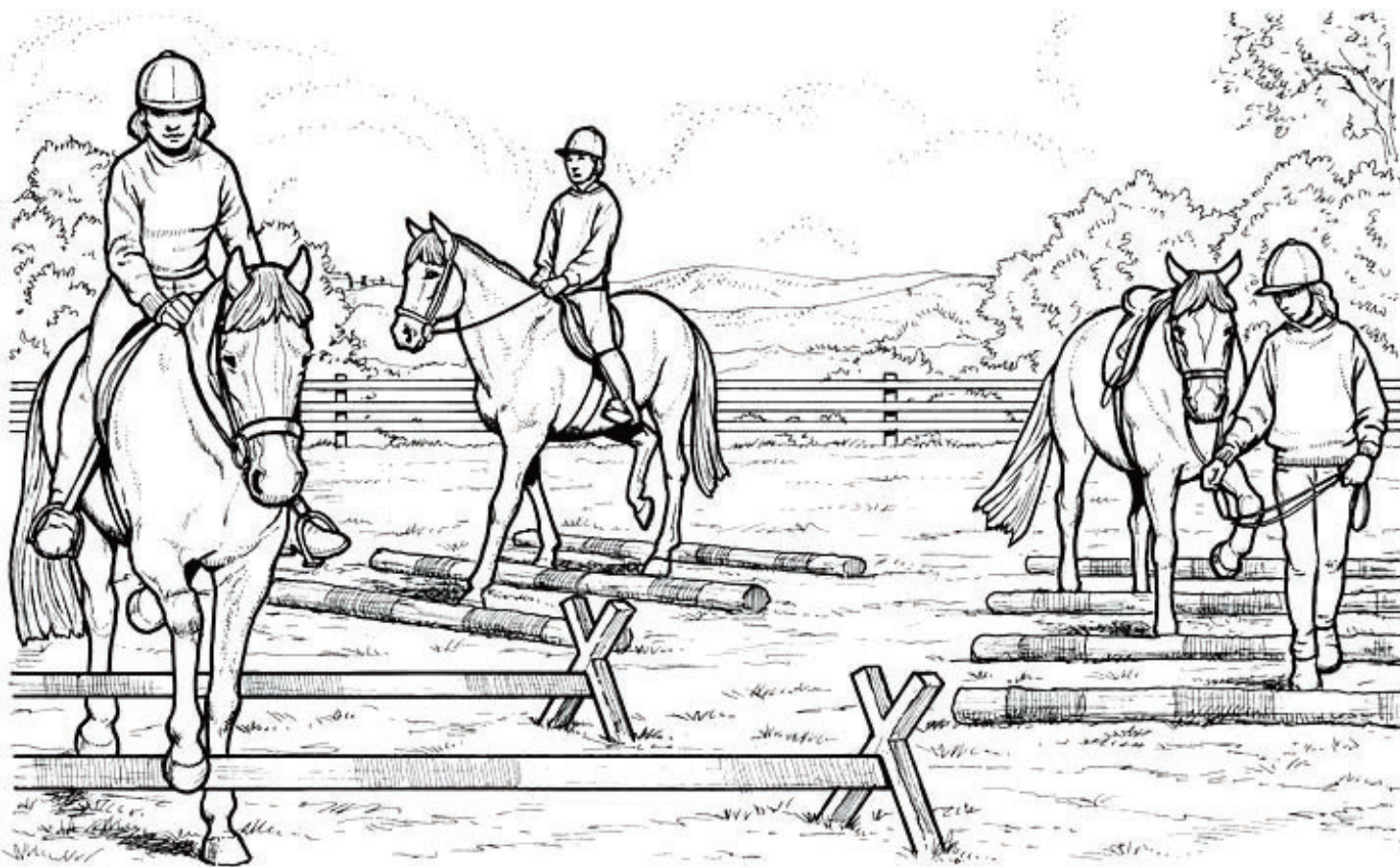


Once dry, you can use colored chalk to decorate your horse. Simply wipe chalk away when you want to make a new design! You can do seasonal or party designs on your horse.

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**Stay safe and have fun with your equine pal!**





# Admiral's Corner

Be sure to tell all of your friends about our Junior Membership program. We have a new price of only \$20! Not only do you get cool stuff and a membership certificate, but you help all horses by supporting equine research!

[Click here for more information.](#)

## Canter Cones

### Ingredients:

1 cup of sweet feed  
1/2 cup of applesauce  
1/2 cup of molasses  
2 cups of flour  
1/2 tsp of cinnamon  
Sugar cones  
Sprinkles  
Peppermints



Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Use a mixer to gently combine all of the ingredients.

The dough will be extremely sticky! Using a spoon, scoop the dough into the sugar cones (don't heap it up on the cones too much) and pack it down.

Dip the sticky "ice cream" portion of the cone into sprinkles, but don't add a peppermint until after you bake (regular peppermints will melt in the oven, which you don't want).  
Tip: if you use soft peppermint puffs instead, you can bake them in the oven and they won't melt.

There should be enough dough to make about six canter cones. Place them on a non-stick cookie sheet and put them in the oven for 10 minutes.

When you take them out of the oven, press a peppermint into the top of each cone while the dough is still soft.

Let them cool for a few hours before serving to your horse.