



November 2009

Beckett & Associates Veterinary Services, LLC Links

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Beckett & Associates Announcements

New Evening Lecture Series Being Offered!

Beginning in December, Beckett & Associates will begin offering a monthly educational series free & open to the public. The first session will be held at the clinic on Thursday, December 10th at 7 pm to discuss Equine Nutrition, Deworming Strategies & Basic Health Care. Each month will rotate between companion & farm animal topics. Join our staff on the first Thursday of every month to listen to our Veterinarians & share refreshments. Please RSVP to the event you would like to attend by emailing us at: Lindsay.Bessette@beckettvet.net.

Future topics will include: Large animal dental care; Small animal dental care & nutrition; Non surgical orthopedic options; Acupuncture & chiropractic medicine.

Check in with us frequently for the topic of the month!

Holiday Hours

We will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 26th & also at noon on Christmas Eve, December 24th, until Monday, December 28th.

10 Tips For Preventing Colic In Your Horse

The number one killer of horses is colic. Colic is not a disease, but rather a combination of signs that alert us to abdominal pain in the horse. Colic can range from mild to severe, but it should never be ignored. Many of the conditions that cause colic can become life threatening in a relatively short period of time. Only by quickly and accurately recognizing colic – and seeking qualified veterinary help – can the chance for recovery be maximized.

While horses seem predisposed to colic due to the anatomy and function of their digestive tracts, management can play a key role in prevention. Although not every case is avoidable, the following guidelines from the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) can maximize the



Beckett & Associates Veterinary Services, LLC online pet store allows you to buy all your pet supplies instantly and at your own convenience. We offer everything from pet health products, to toys and treats.

No time to go to the pet store, that's okay [Order Online](#) and have your pet supplies delivered to your home.

Contact Beckett & Associates Veterinary Services, LLC

860-659-0848
1269 Main St

Glastonbury, CT 06033

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:
7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday:
8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

24-hour Large Animal
Emergency Coverage



Pet Angels provides animal lovers a direct link to local rescues in Connecticut. Our Pet Lost & Found allows users to search for their lost pet or post a found animal. Visitors can also put up their animals for adoption.

Pet Angels was created by Beckett and Associates Veterinary Services, LLC and is a free service to those looking to adopt or rescue their next – or first – pet.

Visit [Pet Angels](#) to find out more

horse's health and reduce the risk of colic:



1. Establish a daily routine – include feeding and exercise schedules – and stick to it.
2. Feed a high quality diet comprised primarily of roughage.
3. Avoid feeding excessive grain and energy-dense supplements. (At least half the horse's energy should be supplied through hay or forage. A better guide is that twice as much energy should be supplied from a roughage source than from concentrates.)
4. Divide daily concentrate rations into two or more smaller feedings rather than one large one to avoid overloading the horse's digestive tract. Hay is best fed free-choice.
5. Set up a regular parasite control program with the help of your equine practitioner.
6. Provide exercise and/or turnout on a daily basis. Change the intensity and duration of an exercise regimen gradually.
7. Provide fresh, clean water at all times. (The only exception is when the horse is excessively hot, and then it should be given small sips of luke-warm water until it has recovered.)
8. Avoid putting feed on the ground, especially in sandy soils.
9. Check hay, bedding, pasture, and environment for potentially toxic substances, such as blister beetles, noxious weeds, and other ingestible foreign matter.
10. Reduce stress. Horses experiencing changes in environment or workloads are at high risk of intestinal dysfunction. Pay special attention to horses when transporting them or changing their surroundings, such as at shows.



Virtually any horse is susceptible to colic. Age, sex, and breed differences in susceptibility seem to be relatively minor. The type of colic seen appears to relate to geographic or regional differences, probably due to environmental factors such as sandy soil or climatic stress. Importantly, what this tells us is that, with conscientious care and management, we have the potential to reduce and control colic, the number one killer of horses.

For more information about colic prevention and treatment, ask your equine veterinarian for the "Colic" brochure, provided by the American Association of Equine Practitioners in partnership with Educational Partner Bayer Animal Health. Additional colic information is available by visiting the AAEP's horse health web site,

www.myHorseMatters.com.

Reprinted with permission from the American Association of Equine Practitioners.

AAHA Seal of Acceptance Helps Pet Owners Decide on Quality Pet Insurance Policies

from healthypet.com

When costs go beyond reasonable financial means, many pet owners are forced to euthanize their pet or incur burdensome debt. The American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) urges all pet owners to seriously evaluate how they would handle the costs of care should they encounter the need for catastrophic or major veterinary expenses.

For those who believe they would not have the means to handle such expenses through savings, credit cards or medical payment cards, pet health insurance merits serious consideration. Since pet insurance policies are available with various limits, coverage, benefits, exclusions and deductibles, selecting the proper policy can be confusing. To alleviate the confusion and help educate pet owners about meeting the cost of veterinary care, the Association has created the AAHA Seal of Acceptance.

"The Association has urged the pet insurance industry to make large scale deductible policies





available," said Dr. John Albers, AAHA executive director. "Higher deductibles reduce premiums and make insurance a more viable option for many budgets."

AAHA believes that most pet owners need coverage for catastrophic expenses. Studies have shown that the majority of pet owners can manage expenses between \$500 and \$1,000, but would have difficulty with expenses beyond that level. The AAHA Seal of Acceptance will be available to any pet insurance company that offers a high-deductible policy that meets the program's criteria.

The high-deductible policies of the companies will receive the AAHA Seal of Acceptance, not the companies themselves. Policies awarded the Seal will be re-evaluated annually to ensure that they follow the Association's guidelines. For frequently asked questions, please [click here](#). To access an AAHA Seal of Acceptance brochure please [click here](#).

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