

## Spring Vaccines

### Why Spring?

Each vaccine should be given based on risk. Some vaccines, such as Tetanus and Rabies, should be given yearly. They can be given in any season, as the risk for these diseases is year-round. Other vaccines depend on season and should be given based on when the risk of disease is highest. West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and Western Equine Encephalitis are all transmitted by mosquitoes. These vaccines should therefore be given a month or two before “mosquito season” (springtime) to ensure the horse is protected against these viruses. The risk for Potomac Horse Fever (not common in NE Ohio but common in many surrounding areas) is July-Oct, so spring/early summer is ideal for vaccination. Since the “seasonal” vaccines should be given in the spring, most people opt to give all recommended vaccines in the spring. If you have any questions regarding your horses’ vaccine program, please do not hesitate to call!

<b>Vaccine</b>	<b>Who should get it?</b>	<b>How often?</b>	<b>Other info</b>
Influenza	Any horse that may be in contact with others	Every 6 months; those at high risk every 3-4 months	
Rhinopneumonitis (EHV1/EHV4)	Any horse that may be in contact with others; especially important for pregnant mares	Every 6 months; those at high risk every 3-4 months	Pregnant mares: at 3, 5, 7, and 9 months of gestation
Rabies	All horses	Once a year	
Tetanus	All horses	Once a year	May be boosted at 6+ months if at risk
West Nile Virus	All horses	Yearly in the spring	Boosted at 6 months if traveling to a warmer climate
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	All horses	Yearly in the spring	Boosted at 6 months if traveling to a warmer climate
Western Equine Encephalitis	All horses	Yearly in the spring	Boosted at 6 months if traveling to a warmer climate
Potomac Horse Fever	Horses traveling to an endemic area (e.g. southern OH, KY, MI, PA, NY)	Yearly in the spring	Vaccine not always effective at preventing disease; can often reduce disease severity
Strangles	Horses at high risk	Yearly if at risk	Check titers prior to vaccination
Equine Viral Arteritis	Breeding animals	Yearly, 2-4 weeks prior to breeding	Check titers prior to vaccination
Botulism	Horses in an endemic area	Yearly	