



Herd This?



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As the weather warms up it brings two things—more riding and bugs! Be sure your horses are up to date on their **vaccinations** as they are predicting a harsh summer in terms of flies and mosquitoes this year.

It also means that if you are traveling more for riding, look into an **equine passport**. They require an initial health certificate but are then good for 6 months of travel! Applications can be found at: www.ncagr.gov/vet

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the office at (910) 655-2442. We also have a new email address: pineviewveterinary@gmail.com

Inside this issue:

Hurricane Preparedness 2-3

Spring Client Education Meeting 3

Letter from Dr. Christine Long 4

Upcoming Summer Client Education Meeting 4

Preparing for Hurricane Season

Imagine that you just got home from work and you turn on the local news. You are only half listening as you make dinner but you hear the word “hurricane” so you turn up the TV. Now you pay attention as the weatherman reports a category 3 hurricane tracking through the Atlantic Ocean and it is projected to make landfall in three days with the eye passing right over Wilmington, NC. You look in the backyard at your 4 horses. What do you do?

The first major question you have to ask yourself as you prepare for hurricane season is will I stay or will I go? Staying, typically called “shelter in place”, means that no matter what happens or how bad the weather becomes, you and your animals will not leave the property. Here are some tips if you decide to stay during a storm:



1. Locate the highest ground on your property and fence it off

Use panels to create an area big enough to comfortably contain all your horses but small enough to stay out of a flooding that occurs. Keep in mind that you may lose power so do not rely on electric fence to keep your horses confined, especially if they are in a new area because of the storm. Depending on the amount of tree coverage, it is generally safer for horses to stay outside in the storm than it is to stay in a barn and risk the roof collapsing or blowing off the building. Remember, horses have good survival instincts so the best plan is to leave them outside to use their instincts!

2. Use halters and/or a microchip to identify all your horses

One helpful idea for sheltering in place to put sturdy leather halters or break-away halters with a leather crown piece on all your horses

Continued on page 2

In this Issue

Another harsh winter is behind us and we are looking forward to the warmer weather that spring brings us. In this issue, we will talk about preparing your animals for hurricane season (which begins June 1st), our previous Spring Client Education Meeting about Equine Cushing’s Disease, and a letter from Dr. Christine Long.

We had such a good turnout with our Spring meeting that we are going to do it again this summer! Make sure to check the last page for information and watch your mailbox for the invitation.

New PVH Family Member



Welcome to Dr. Freeman’s new horse! His name is ImaChocolateReber aka Winston! She has been out of the saddle for almost a year since putting down her partner of 14 years but it looks like Winston has already stolen her heart. Be sure to tell him hi if you stop by the clinic.

Hurricane Preparedness (con't)

with nameplates or tags attached, giving the animals name, your name, address, and the best way to reach you. The leather will break away if your horse gets it caught on something allow them to escape rather than leaving them stuck to a piece of fence or a tree where they can't get away from danger or get back home.



You can also have your horse microchipped for identification. The chip is the same as used for dogs and cats and is placed just under the mane where it connects to the neck. Pineview now offers this service to our clients for \$45 per horse. You then enter your contact information and your horse's information on the company's website. If you have your horse microchipped, we recommend also putting that number on the halter plate or tag so they know to scan the horse for more information.

3. Stockpile enough feed, water, medications, and supplements

Make sure you have enough feed and water to survive for two to three weeks. Remember that if you choose to shelter in place and there is a mandatory evacuation ordered for your area, it could be several days to a week before the roads are cleared enough for emergency help to reach you and for you to be able to leave. Do not plan on letting horses drink from the puddles as their water source. This water can be contaminated after a storm and is not safe for horses to drink. You can put out barrels to catch the rain if you lose power to the pump for your well. Or even better is to have a generator that you can turn on to pump water for both you and your animals.

4. Contact the Office of Emergency Preparedness

You can contact the state emergency group for more information about sheltering in place. In North Carolina, this is the Emergency Programs Division, as part of the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



In South Carolina, it is the South Carolina Emergency Management Division. Also make sure your county emergency division knows your specific location and number of animals in case you need emergency help during the hurricane or in the event that your animals get loose during the storm. Finally, let your neighbors know your plans and know theirs – always have a backup buddy.

On the other hand, you may decide that it is easier for you to leave in the event of a hurricane (such as you don't have a generator in the event that you lose power for days, you yourself have special needs, you are at a boarding facility that requires the owners to remove their horses, etc.). If you decide to leave, this also requires some planning ahead.

1. Locate a place well out of the hurricane path

Make sure first that you have a place to go. There are several websites that offer listings of farms that will take horses overnight or for a few nights – horseandtravel.com, horsemotel.com, and travelinghorse.com. When you go to the websites, you can click on each state to find state-specific farms. Horsemotel.com also offers a link to farms in other states that specifically take horses during a hurricane evacuation. Contact several places and find out what their policy is for bringing horses – most will require you to bring a negative coggins and enough feed and hay for all your horses. But some may require proof of current vaccines and a health certificate. Also ask if they have a veterinarian that the farm uses routinely. This can be helpful if your horse sustains an injury during the trip or you have an emergency, like colic, that you need to have treated when you are away from home.

2. Give your truck and trailer a good inspection



To travel, it also important to make sure that your trailer is ready for hauling. Check your tires for dry rot, tread, and tire pressure.

Make sure that you have a spare tire in good condition. Hook up your truck and check that all your lights on the trailer are in working order and replace any bulbs as needed. Make sure the connection is good and that the wires aren't frayed. Check the vents and windows and make sure they open easily. If you leave the windows open in the trailer, also make sure you have nets over the windows so horses can't stick their heads out of the trailer. Remember that hurricanes typically occur in the summer and early fall when it is hot and you may be stuck in traffic where it can get very hot in the trailer. Finally, put fresh shavings down. As you use the trailer always clean it out and put fresh shavings back so it is one less thing you will have to do when you evacuate.

3. Use a halter and/or microchip to identify all horses

As discussed above, have a leather or break-away halter with your horse's information on it. This can be especially helpful if you have to spend several days on a strange farm where the staff doesn't know your horse. Also bring extra lead ropes and buckles. It never fails that one will break when you need it the most

Hurricane Preparedness (con't)

so have a few spares stashed in your trailer. It is also a good idea to have pictures of your horse from both sides with his name, breed, sex, and age on a sheet of paper that you have laminated. This can act as a stall card or pasture sign when you travel to aid in identifying your horse. Bring enough feed and hay for about a week, depending on the severity of the hurricane and its estimated location for land fall. Also bring plenty of any medications or supplements a horse requires while you are gone as getting refills can be more difficult during this time.

4. Bring plenty of water in the trailer

During Hurricane Floyd in 1999, Dr. Freeman evacuated Charleston with her horse and spent 14 hours on the interstate to travel about 160 miles, a trip that normally takes 3 hours! Stop every 3 hours or so to offer horses water. But as a general rule, do not take your horses off the trailer. Even the best horse can become scared during an evacuation and you either pull away from you and take off when unloaded or refuse to load again. Once they are safely on the trailer, leave them there until you reach your destination.



5. Plan a route and leave early

Know your state's plan for road closures during a mandatory evacuation as that can significantly change your travel plans. You can contact either the North Carolina or South Carolina Office of Emergency Preparedness for this information. You can also let them know of your specific location and number of animals in case you need emergency help during the hurricane. Ask the place you are going for any information they have on the best route and keep them updated with your arrival time so they are ready to help you and your horse! And make sure to tell your neighbors your plans for leaving and route in case something happens.



Traveling with horses isn't easy but if you take a couple of hours once a year to plan and check your equipment, you can help save a major disaster in the future. If you board your horses somewhere off your property, talk to the owners and find out what they expect if a hurricane makes landfall in our area. Do they have the ability to take care of your animals if you shelter in place but the roads are so bad you cannot get out to the property? Or do they expect you to move your animals off their property? Asking beforehand is always easier than finding out the hard way during an emergency. And as always, Pineview Veterinary Hospital is here to help you and your horses as you prepare. Please call the office at (910) 655-2442 for questions or concerns.

Spring Client Education Meeting

On Thursday February 19th, Pineview Veterinary Hospital hosted a client education dinner at the Boy's and Girls Home at Lake Waccamaw, in partnership with Boehringer-Ingelheim (BI) and Purina, to talk about Equine Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction (PPID), or Cushing's Disease. BI provided the audience with a great overview of the disease as well as the latest results in their research and ways to help treat with Peroglide®. The most common clinical signs associated with Cushing's Disease is a lack of shedding their heavy winter coat long into the summer. Other signs include chronic laminitis, weight loss due to muscle atrophy, and abnormal deposition of fat across the body. Re-



cent research suggests that increased sweating may be an early sign of Cushing's disease but it is unknown if that is due to the lack of shedding of their winter coat or true increased sweating. BI is currently investigating this relationship.

Purina then talked about ways to feed a horse that has been diagnosed with Cushing's disease that works together with treatment. The first goal of feeding Cushinoid horses is to decrease the amount of sugar and starch in their diet, which can increase the likelihood of laminitis.

Next, it is important to feed them the right amount for their age and current weight. If they have already lost weight due to their disease, it is important to get them back to an ideal weight.



BI, Purina, and Pineview gave away raffle prizes so no one went home empty handed and Chadbourn Feeds fed everyone a wonderful dinner. Overall, we had a great turnout and received almost exclusively positive feedback from the event.

Turn to the next page to see information about our next meeting in June! We hope to see you there!



A Letter to our Pineview Family

Winter is trying to leave and Spring is slowly peeking her head around the corner. With this change in season unfolding many of you know that there have been some changes at Pineview already. Dr. Heidi Hart is no longer the owner as she and her family have taken a courageous step into the missionary field over seas. I ask that you please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they begin this next chapter of their exciting lives. On that same note I am very excited to begin my next life chapter with you as the new owner of Pineview Veterinary Hospital. I have been blessed with this wonderful opportunity and am thankful to be your new owner. I was welcomed with loving arms when I joined the Pineview family the Summer of 2011. Now I am even more grateful for the continued love and support that you (our amazing Pineview family) have extended to me. Rest assure that the same high quality, progressive large animal veterinary care that you deserve will continue as Dr. Hart established when the practice began in 2002. Keep your eyes open for new and exciting client education events, informative newsletters for our ruminant and equine cliental as well as discounts and other promotional events. God blesses us every day if we just open our eyes and look to him.



Sincerely,

Christine M Long, DVM



**So whether you eat or
drink or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of
God.
I Corinthians 10:31**

Pineview Veterinary Hospital is a large animal veterinary practice meeting the needs of large animals in south-eastern North Carolina and northeastern South Carolina.

Our mission is to provide high quality service to our clients coupled with the most advanced and progressive veterinary care for our patients with an emphasis on preventive and herd health medicine.

Pineview Veterinary Hospital
7263 Green Swamp Rd. S
Bolton, NC 28423

Dr. Christine Long
Dr. Jennifer Freeman

Phone: 910-655-2442
Fax: 910-655-8552
E-mail:
pineviewveterinary@gmail.com
www.pineviewvet.com

zoetis Summer Client Education Meeting



Our summer client education meeting will be Saturday June 6th at the Boy's and Girl's Home at Lake Waccamaw again. This meeting will focus on the common vaccinations we give our horses and the diseases they protect against:

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|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Eastern Equine Encephalitis | Influenza |
| Western Equine Encephalitis | Rhinopneumonitis |
| Tetanus | Strangles |
| West Nile Virus | Rabies |

In addition, there will be demonstrations and great education on proper saddle fitting for both western and English disciplines. Food will be provided and door prizes so make sure to check your mailbox for your invitation coming soon!