



SPRING NEWSLETTER

708 N Main | Bellevue, ID | 208-788-1465

Annual dental?

Did you know that an annual dental exam and float is essential to the health of your horse? Horse teeth are fully formed in the skull of a horse by age 4. The teeth continue to erupt over time. As time passes, the daily use of the teeth result in uneven wear pattern. Floating the teeth will help make the horse more comfortable by removing sharp points and addressing any unevenness in the mouth. Additionally, we can identify and address any oral infection, loose or broken teeth. Our veterinarian and technician are well trained in dentistry, sedation and appropriate restraint and will provide safe, comprehensive dental care for your horse.

Client Education Night

Our Client Education seminar will be held at 6pm on Monday, April 20 in the Queen of the Hills Room at the Community Campus in Hailey. This year's topic will be Pre Purchase Exams: Finding the right horse and making sure it is healthy. Please RSVP to office@sawtoothequine.com. All ages welcome.

Laminitis 101

Spring pasture season is soon upon us! That also means our horses are at an increased risk for laminitis...here are some things to look for.

Every day, veterinarians across the country see hundreds of cases of laminitis, a painful disease that affects the feet of horses. Laminitis results from the disruption of blood flow to the sensitive and insensitive laminae within the foot, which secure the coffin bone to the hoof wall. While the exact mechanisms by which the feet are damaged remain a mystery, certain precipitating events can produce laminitis.

Although laminitis occurs in the feet, the underlying cause is often a disturbance elsewhere in the horse's body. As a horse owner, it is important to recognize the signs of laminitis and seek veterinary help immediately.

Signs of acute laminitis include the following:

- Lameness, especially when a horse is turning in circles; shifting lameness when standing
- Heat in the feet
- Increased digital pulse in the feet
- Pain in the toe region when pressure is applied with hoof testers
- Reluctant or hesitant gait, as if "walking on eggshells"
- A "sawhorse stance," with the front feet stretched out in front to alleviate pressure on the toes and the hind feet "camped out" or positioned farther back than normal to bear more weight

Billing Changes

Sawtooth Equine is updating our billing and payment structure. We now offer multiple payment options. Payment options include online from our website <https://sawtoothequine.com> your emailed invoice/statement, in person at the office or check via the postal service. In an effort to avoid outstanding balances, we ask that **full** payment be remitted after receiving the emailed invoice or within 10 days of receiving the end of month statement. If full payment cannot be remitted, please call our office to set up a payment plan.

Chiropractic and acupuncture services

Dr. Crawford is certified in acupuncture and chiropractic provides these services to our clients in the field or in house. Chiro and acupuncture are great options to keep your horses performing at their highest level!

Biosecurity while traveling - be careful

As the summer travel season approaches, be sure to keep biosecurity in mind. All horses that travel (even to another barn/facility for a clinic or trail ride) should be fully vaccinated for influenza and rhinopneumonitis in addition to their 3-way and West Nile. Try not to share grooming or cleaning equipment. Don't share buckets or feed tubs/hay nets. Don't tie horses next to horses that live somewhere else. Be safe!

Laminitis continued....

Signs of chronic laminitis may include the following:

- Rings in hoof wall that become wider as they are followed from toe to heel
- Bruised soles or "stone bruises"
- Widened white line, commonly called "seedy toe," with occurrence of blood pockets and/or abscesses
- Dropped soles or flat feet
- Thick, "cresty" neck
- Dished hooves, which are the result of unequal rates of hoof growth.

If you suspect laminitis, consider it a medical emergency and notify your veterinarian immediately. The sooner treatment begins, the better the chance for recovery. For information about laminitis, ask our veterinarian.

Equine eyes....always an emergency!!



Our office gets many calls each year with questions on eyes!! Horses are adept at injuring their eyes. At our practice, we consider any eye related problems to be an urgent issue. Typically, we like to see those horses on the same day or next day. Horses only have 2 eyes (thank goodness) and good vision is essential for their work. Our reception staff will have a few questions about the duration of the problem and get you on our schedule! Don't put anything in the eye prior to speaking with our vets!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook for updates and specials!

