Fall 2026 Newsletter

Clinic News

We are excited to celebrate Megan as she begins her next step at Kansas State Veterinary School. We are incredibly proud of this exciting achievement and grateful for all the hard work, compassion, and dedication Megan brought to the East River Equine. Don't worry we have already convincing her to come back once she's graduated :)

If you have been around this summer, you may have noticed our many shadows. Kelsie is staying on and transitioning to the position of assistant. Kelsie is a senior animal science major with a pre-veterinary specialization at SDSU. After college, she plans on applying to vet school.





Out of the Office

September 30-October 3 (No Emergencies)
November 3-November 9 (No Emergencies)
November 26-November 27
December 7-December 12 (No Emergencies)
December 24-December 25
December 31-January 1

Scheduling

Scheduling for Spring/Summer 2027 is open. Moving forward, the clinic will not be open for regular appointments on Thursdays. We will continue to see emergencies as needed.

AT THIS TIME MARCH-JUNE 2027 ARE FULL





Gastroscope Day

Does your horse get stressed easily?
Wondering if your horse has ulcers?
Just want to get ahead before competition season?
When: November 11, 2026



We are hosting another gastroscope day. This allows you to get your horse checked for ulcers at a discounted rate. All patients must be hauled in to our clinic. Limited spots are avaliable, so call or text today to schedule.

Building Update

This summer has been busy getting our new building up and running. This building will include 3 additional stalls, a fully padded drop-down room, stocks, and most importantly MORE SPACE. We are anticipating an opening date of November 2026. We look forward to being able better able to serve you in whatever you need.

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Winter Horse Prep Tips

By Morgan Anderson

How to Tell if Your Horse is Cold

Watch the horse, not just the thermometer. Signs they may be cold include:

- Shivering
- Hunched or tucked up posture
- Seeking shelter
- Cold skin/body
- Reduced activity
- Weight loss

If they're cold, bring inside a barn or blanket.

Hoof Care and Shoes

Winter doesn't mean skipping regular farrier care. Pick feet regularly. Watch for thrush, abscesses, cracks, and soreness. Whether to keep or pull shoes depends on the individual horse and their needs. Consider traction/ice protection if your horse remains shod.

Hay and Feed

Horses need additional energy in cold weather to maintain body temperature. Good quality forage should be the foundation of the winter diet with free choice hay when practical. Monitor body condition and increase calories, if needed. Always make feed changes gradually. Provide plenty of clean, unfrozen water.

Blanketing

Not every horse needs a blanket. Consider age, body condition, coat, whether they're clipped, and access to shelter. If blanketing, make sure you have the proper fit and it is waterproof. Check blankets regularly for rubbing, damage, or moisture underneath. Do not put a blanket on a wet horse unless it is specifically designed for that purpose.

Winter Respiratory Health

By Dr. Kara Robbins-Moret

Although it's 90 degrees the day I write this, winter is coming. This time of year is a great time to do further diagnostics. Over winter, horses are often placed on round bales, exacerbating allergies related to dust and mold. In the spring, summer, and fall, bugs, harvest, dust, pollens, and weeds can all increase inflammation within the airway. Performing an upper respiratory workup can help ensure that you don't take any steps back during the winter and are better prepared for the upcoming spring and summer. Our respiratory workup includes a bronchoalveolar lavage - BAL (deep lung lavage looking for bleeding and equine asthma), a tracheal wash (performed sterilely through our scope – allows for cytologic evaluation of trachea along with culture to look for bacteria), and often additional bloodwork (SAA, allergy testing). These tests help us get a full picture of your horse's lung health to make better recommendations in the future. Below are a few winter tips to make sure your horse is happy and healthy going into the New Year.

- If feeding round bales, store inside to reduce dust and mold.
- Feed in open feeders where dust and mold can't accumulate.
- If it's below freezing, consider not riding or only riding lightly. Cold air can irritate the lining within the airway.
- Monitor your horse for any coughing and nasal discharge.

Supplement Spotlight: Airwise



A clinical study performed at the University of Georgia showed a significant reduction in neutrophils and IL-6 concentrations (diagnosed on BALs) when using this product. Both neutorphils and IL-6 serve as markers of airway inflammation. Abnormal rebreathing exams also significantly reduced following supplementation and horses had lower resting respiratory rates.

Overall Interpretation: Product may modulate pulmonary inflammation and improve clinical signs in asthmatic horses.

Administration: 1 scoop by mouth once a day for maintenance. Comes in powder form.

Cost: about $2.50 per day

Dr. Kara's Thoughts:

This product has been successful in helping maintain horses with equine asthma and allergies. We have received positive feedback from owners using for maintenance.