



295 High Street, Route 1A, Ipswich, MA 01938  
(978) 356-1119 office (978) 356-5758 fax

*Twenty-four hour, Seven day a week Coverage for our Equine Patients*

### **DR. BUTTERWORTH JOINS SRH**

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Kelly Butterworth will be joining our practice on July 1 of this year. Dr. Butterworth is a Hamilton native and is already familiar to many people in our local equine community. She recently sat for her certification exam for the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and will be bringing advanced skills gained in her internship and residency training since graduating from the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell in 2006. We are delighted to welcome her back to New England and feel strongly that our clients will benefit from her skills, clinical judgment, technological expertise, and strong character.

This announcement coincides with the time when we launch our annual equine wellness program for our clients. We are mailing sign-up sheets for the annual vaccination and Coggins test clinics to many of our clients at this time. We also continue to offer other wellness care services such as dentistry, routine blood analysis and Lyme Disease testing, AVID microchip placement, quantitative fecal analyses, sheath cleaning, and annual examinations for parasite control measures during these clinics. It is very important for both our clients and our veterinarians that we receive completed forms in advance of clinics so that adequate time can be scheduled for your appointments. Our ability to provide these services is greatly enhanced by the diligent efforts of our clients to expedite the paperwork involved in completing the sign-up sheets and Coggins test forms.

We have included a flow chart to illustrate the way we strategically approach the several visits necessary to accomplish all of the spring vaccinations. We target the benefit of West Nile and Eastern Equine Encephalitis protection by timing these inoculations as late as possible during the spring. Horses vaccinated after May 1 will have duration of immunity that should last through the mosquito season in our geographic area. We monitor mosquito testing programs and will recommend fall vaccination for any of our patients who have been vaccinated prior to May 1 if necessary this year. Our initial late winter or early spring visits will involve rabies and rhinopneumonitis/influenza vaccines or strangles protection.

We provide parasite control guidance to our clients, and we have included details in this mailing to describe our program. A landmark paper presented in the 2009 American Association of Equine Practitioners Proceedings (vol. 55, pp. 352-360) documents the science supporting this state-of-the-art approach that we have been advocating for three years.

Payment is required at the time of service for work done during the clinics. Since we charge no visit fee for groups of five or more horses, we must add a billing surcharge per horse when payment is not made at the time of a clinic. We are gratified that our clients are so cooperative in helping to achieve our mutual goal of providing affordable wellness care to the horses under our medical supervision.

Our web site is undergoing major revision that should be completed mid spring. Among the many improvements it will enable will be the ability to download scheduling forms and the institution of digitized Coggins technology to replace the standard forms we are currently using.