

Cleary Lake Veterinary Hospital Newsletter

Equine Edition

July 2009

Can I See Your I.D.? Microchipping Your Horse

Why should I microchip my horse?

Think of it as permanent identification of your horse, like a brand or tattoo. It can be useful for proof of ownership in case of theft/loss, in disaster recovery, or for registries and events. Law enforcement agencies view microchips as court-worthy permanent ID. AVID microchips have supplied scanners to the USDA equine slaughter facilities, and many auctions are scanning all horses that pass through their sales. National Preparedness groups that rescue animals in times of natural disasters carry the scanners with them. If your horse has been microchipped, you are just a phone call away! Some breed registries strongly recommend (and in some cases require) microchipping your horse before registration.

What is a microchip and where does it go?

It is a computer chip that is about the size of a grain of rice that is implanted in the left side of your horse's neck. When a scanner is passed over the chip, radiowaves from the chip send a number to the scanner. That number is in a database with all of your horse's information.

How do they trace the owner?

Your chip is automatically registered to a network. Your information is connected to the chip I.D. number. Your horse is scanned, the number comes up, and you are called right away.

How can I receive discounted Equine Services?

Save 3% when you pay at the time of service with a credit card. Better yet, pay with cash or a check and save 5%!

For Example if your bill is \$500.00

3% = You Save \$15.00
(That could be 2 movie tickets!)

5% = You Save \$25.00
(That could be about 8 gallons of gas!)

Worried you won't have your credit card when we come out? We can keep it on file and charge it when we get back from your appointment and you'll save 3%.

Did you know??

A mule is a cross between a jack (male donkey) and a mare. Mules are usually sterile (they cannot reproduce).

A hinny is a cross between a stallion and a jenny (female donkey). Hinnys are usually sterile as well.

Horses cannot breathe through their mouths.

Horses have a prehensile upper lip. Prehensile means, "adapted for seizing, grasping, or taking hold of something". Their upper lips are very sensitive, and capable of feeling the smallest of differences in objects.

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