

# KIRKTON V E T C L I N I C

**HOLIDAY HOURS:**

*CLOSED:*

*Tuesday, December 25, 2012*  
*Wednesday, December 26, 2012*  
*Tuesday, January 1, 2013*

*REDUCED:*

*Monday, December 24th, 2012*  
*8am-2pm*  
*Monday, December 31, 2012*  
*8am-2pm*

*\* Emergency services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 519-229-8911*

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE KVC!

Wow, December and the holiday season are already upon us - how this year has flown by! Your equine veterinarians are wishing you and your four-legged companions the very best of health and happiness at this festive time of year...

We have some exciting news and changes to our clinic to tell you about! The first is the addition of a new veterinarian to our staff - **Dr. Lisa Aurini!** Lisa has been with us since the beginning of December, and she will be a regular face out on the road with our equine staff, as well as taking on a role in our clinic caring for some of our small animal patients. We are very pleased to have her knowledge and expertise join our team!

Secondly, for those of you that don't already know - **Dr. Carly Telfer** is expecting! She is due to foal near the beginning of April, and will be taking some much-deserved time off (beginning in March) to spend with her new baby. We will miss her very much during her maternity leave and wish her the best of luck!

As well, the new year promises some exciting events, such as the return of our annual Equine Extravaganza in March (date still TBD)! As we are still deciding on topics for our lectures, please let us know if there is something in particular you would like to see covered.

**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY!!**



**Lisa Aurini, D.V.M., B.Sc.**  
*Lisa completed a B.Sc. at the University of Calgary, before obtaining her D.V.M. at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon. She then completed a year-long equine internship at Okotoks Animal Clinic in Alberta before joining us at the KVC. She has a strong interest in wound care, rehabilitation and lameness.*

# HOLIDAY UPDATES 2012

## Did you see our team at the Lucan Parade??

KVC made it's debut at the Lucan parade this past weekend with its very own float and an entourage of staff and pets!



## Have you read our blog??

Not everyone is on Facebook, or surfs the web every night, but we have been doing our best to make sure that our clients have access to some good information online. In the past few months, we have added a "Blogs" link to our homepage - where you can find articles about key health issues, and tidbits of information about what it's like to be an equine vet, etc. Topics such as "Colic First Aid" are quite relevant to this time of year, so if you haven't had a chance already, check it out at [www.kirktonvetclinic.com](http://www.kirktonvetclinic.com)!



### Time to deworm for TAPEWORMS!!!

*This is the time of year we recommend picking up a dewormer that will treat your horse for any tapeworms he or she may have acquired this summer. Many dewormers out there are good products, and quite effective, but only a few will treat your horse against this pesky parasite.*

*A good rule of thumb is to look for a product that has the word "Plus", "Max", or "Gold" at the end of the name.*

*These dewormers contain the ingredient 'praziquantel' which is a drug that kills tapeworms. Pick yours up from the KVC today, or ask at your local tack or feed store.*



*Early recognition and treatment of colic can result in a better outcome for your horse. For more information, check out our website: [www.kirktonvetclinic.com](http://www.kirktonvetclinic.com)*

## Tips for Preventing Colic

Winter weather and cold temperatures can wreak havoc on our horses' digestive systems. There are a few things we can do as horse owners in order to make the transition from warmer to colder weather a little easier for our equine friends.

- 1) **Make sure horses have access to clean, unfrozen water.** This can be tricky in the cold weather, but installing a heated waterer in your pasture or purchasing individual bucket heaters can help avoid frozen buckets
- 2) **Monitor hydration status.** A big contributor to colic in the wintertime is often dehydration. In the cold weather horses tend not to drink as much water, and combined with eating a drier roughage source (hay) they are easily dehydrated. A quick "skin pinch" test can give you an idea of whether or not your horse is hydrated.
- 3) **Add water to the diet.** One way to increase the amount of water your horse takes in every day is to add it to his feed. Soaking pellets with warm water, or even soaking hay for 30 minutes prior to feeding will help your horse stay hydrated. Soaked beet pulp is another nice addition to add moisture in this cold weather.
- 4) **Make sure your horse is up to date with deworming.** Call us for more information if you are unsure of your deworming plan - 519-229-8911.