

2140 Maple Drive, Plover, WI 54467
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corrientevet.com Find us on Facebook

Dr. Gary Johnson, DVM
Dr. Rebecca Blackburn, DVM
Dr. Kelsey Schluter, DVM
Penny Turner, CVT
Amanda Shulfer, CVT
Kaity Springhoff, CVT
Kimberly Bier, Assistant

From Dr. Johnson

Thank You to all of the clients, friends, and colleagues who responded to the postings concerning my recent cancer diagnosis. Knowing I have support from such a wonderful group gives me a great deal of comfort as I progress through treatment.

I am being treated at the University of Wisconsin and travel to Madison frequently for treatment and testing. The specialist that is overseeing my care is pleased with my response so far and has scheduled more testing for the end of January to monitor progress. I hope to start feeling stronger and return to work when the doctor gives me the ok. In the interim, Drs Blackburn and Schluter are staying busy and doing a great job covering calls. I remain available for consultation and email: gjohnson@corrientevet.com I look forward to getting back to work and seeing all of you again!



CORE VACCINE SPECIAL in January & February

- 15%-off Core / 6-way & Rabies
- 15%-off Additional vaccines (i.e. Strangles, Lyme)
- 15%-off Coggins Test
- 15%-off select Lab Tests (including ACTH, Insulin*)
*for insulin test, fast from grain 4-6hrs, hay ok
- 15%-off Farm Call or a FREE OFFICE VISIT

Horse must get both the Rabies and 6-way for any %-off
6-way protects against Tetanus, Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis (EEE & WEE), West Nile (WN), Influenza (EIV), & Rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1,4)

Payment in full required at time of service.

CALL US AT (715) 342-1212 TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT

Knowing Patients For Proper Treatment

At Corriente Vet Service the health of our patients is always our top priority. Unfortunately, we commonly face circumstances in which a client asks us to refill a prescription medication or to recommend treatment for a horse that has lapsed from an active *Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)*. So what is a VCPR?

A VCPR is the formal relationship that you have with the veterinarian who is your primary contact for veterinary care and is familiar with you and your animal/s. This relationship is essential to provide your horse with the best care possible. A VCPR is established when we examine your horse *in person* and it is maintained by regular vet visits as needed to monitor your horse's health. A valid relationship cannot be established online, via email, or over the phone. If a VCPR was established but we had not regularly seen your horse afterward, the VCPR is no longer valid and it becomes not only unethical for us to prescribe medications or recommend treatment, but illegal as well. This includes ongoing medications such as Prascend or phenylbutazone among others.

The law defining what a veterinarian is not allowed to do without an active VCPR is important because things can change so quickly in the life of an animal that to prescribe medications, recommend treatments, and other such practices would be dangerous without a current exam. We at Corriente always try to act in the absolute best interest of you and your horse/s — this means an examination by a doctor, not only to comply with our legal obligations, but to maintain your horse in the best possible health.

Corriente Veterinary Service
2140 Maple Drive
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WINTER WEIGHT WOES

Winter poses many challenges for horse owners including keeping their horses at an appropriate body weight. While it is not uncommon for us to put on a few extra pounds during the holidays, we see many horses drop weight during the winter months. This is especially common in aging horses who require more calories to maintain an appropriate weight. A horse at an ideal weight has ribs that can be felt but not seen, have some soft fat around the tail-head, and their backbone should be well covered. For most horses the ideal body condition is a 4, 5, or 6 out of 9 (examples of body scoring can be found on our website). A weight tape can also be used to track a horse's condition.

Your horse's weight should be assessed frequently, every 2 weeks or so, especially in the winter when they might be wearing a blanket that can hide changes. If you notice a horse dropping weight the important first step is to make changes to their feeding program. This can be as simple as increasing the amount of feed they are already receiving or it may be time to add a more calorie rich feed source to the diet. Remember to make any feed changes gradually over the course of weeks and consult with a veterinarian before making any feed changes in horses that have any metabolic, laminitis/founder, or other health concerns. If your horse continues to drop weight, is not gaining weight as the feed is being increased, or has any behavior/attitude changes with the weight loss, then an examination by a veterinarian is recommended. The vets and staff at Corriente are happy to discuss body condition and nutrition in more detail. Please see our website, corrientevet.com, for more resources on body condition scoring and feeding for weight gain.

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Equine Preventive, Dental, Medical, Reproductive, Surgical, Lameness/Sports Medicine, 24/7 Emergency Care