

## \*\*\*EVENTS\*\*\*

- **September 15th- Liz Hodge Clinic**
- **October- Dental Clinic**

## \*TIP OF THE MONTH\*

### Adult Horse (Vital resting values)

- Temperature: 99-101°F (37.2-38.3°C)
- Pulse: 28-44 beats per minute
- Respiration (breathing rate): 10-24 breaths per minute
- Mucous membranes (gums):  
Moist, healthy pink color
- Capillary refill time (time it takes for capillaries in the gums to return to pink after being pressed with a finger): Two seconds or less
- Gut sounds: Gurgling, gaslike growls, "tinkling" sounds (fluid), and occasionally "roars"

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## Should You Have a Prepurchase Exam Done on Your Next Horse?

When searching for your horse there are plenty of questions that arise. One of them may be whether or not to have a veterinarian examine the horse, otherwise known as a prepurchase exam. The scope of these exams can range from a thorough physical exam to x-rays, ultrasounds and MRI's. The value and use of the horse often dictates the detail of the exam. A prepurchase exam is not based on the concept of pass/fail and is not a guarantee, but is an evaluation of the horse at a given time. The purpose of such exams are the help provide the buyer with enough information to make an informed decision as to whether the horse will meet their needs, and possibly uncover any pre-existing conditions the horse may have. The veterinarian assesses the general health, conformation and soundness for the intended use. Most horses have some problem, but it's to be determined whether the problem will affect the intended use of the horse with the potential buyers. A thorough health history is an important aspect of a prepurchase exam. The seller must be upfront and provide any medical records deemed necessary.

When determining whether a given horse will horse for a potential buyer several things need to be considered.

- Horse/rider match
- Behavior and temperament
- Performance history
- Financial cost
- Physical health and fitness
- Genetic or breed predispositions
- Medical history

A prepurchase exam can be broken down into several phases. Any exam will involve a basic health and lameness evaluation. The health evaluation involves a thorough physical exam that consists of health history, temperature, heart rate/rhythm, respiration, general condition, neurologic evaluation, ocular evaluation and conformation. The lameness evaluation consists of movement evaluation, flexion tests and soft tissue palpation. Additional diagnostic may also be performed. They consist of x-rays, ultrasound, endoscopy and bloodwork.

Radiographs (x-rays) can provide valuable information about conformation, joints and other underlying diseases. Endoscopy may be performed on potential racehorses with suspected sinus or laryngeal problems or in horses where gastric ulcers are suspected. Ultrasound allows for a further, more detailed look at soft tissue structures and is a key aspect of a breeding soundness exam in a mare. Bloodwork may involve a coggins test, general health panel or determination of the presence of drugs or diseases such as Cushings.





## Invites you to attend a Resistance Free Training Clinic with Elizabeth Hodge-Nier

**Date:** September 15, 2012

**Time:** 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00

**Where:** Roaring Brook Veterinary Service Equine Facility  
6314 Cannan rd, Lowville, NY 13367

**Description:** Liz Hodge-Nier will be offering tips on developing confidence, communication and comfort for both horse and rider. Both sessions will be ground work and will focus on improving communication between handler and horse, and on ways to release endorphins to relax your horse.

These training sessions are geared for all levels of riders and horses and are very one-on-one.

- **30\$ cost for each horse-rider combination**
- **Spots are on a first-come, first-serve basis**
- **There are 15 spots per session**
- **Free raffle**
- **Lunch will be provided for participants**

For more information:

[www.roaringbrookveterinaryservice.com](http://www.roaringbrookveterinaryservice.com)

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