



Northwest Veterinary Associates, Inc.

Stephen Wadsworth, DVM
Peter Averill, DVM
Jennifer Hull, DVM
Tom Linden, DVM
Erica Sebestyan, DVM
Carter Wallinger, DVM

Opportunities and Introductions

October 2020 Newsletter prepared by Dr. Hull

Calf Barn Sanitation Audits

Most years the summer is the “easy” time to raise calves. Air flow in the barns are better and the calves are not usually as stressed as they are during the winter months. Before we dive into another Vermont winter, it might be a good time to take an in depth look at the calf facilities/protocols on your farm to troubleshoot any issues before the weather turns. We are working with a company who is offering a calf barn sanitation audit at no cost to the client to consult with the farm and the veterinarian. This audit encompasses four main areas: water hygiene, feeding and associated equipment, environmental habitat for livestock, and biosecurity (personnel). After data is collected, a report is generated that will help you and your veterinarian address areas of opportunity within your facility. If you are interested in having one of these audits performed on your farm, please let your herd health veterinarian know and they can get you on the schedule.

COVID relief applications

It is hard to keep track of all the grants/funding opportunities revolving around the COVID crisis this year. The federal CFAP program has opened a second round of funding. This will help cover losses that the first round did not cover. You will need to submit your milk production information from April-August, and they will then prorate an estimate to help cover the losses that will occur from September through December. Contact your FSA office for more information, as the deadline for this round is December 11th.

The Vermont assistance program (VCAAP) has temporarily suspended taking new applications for a few weeks while they make some adjustments to the program. Once reopened, the application deadline will be November 15th. This round of funding helps offset losses on milk produced from March through September. The application is online, and questions can be directed to the State Agency of Agriculture.

Welcome Erin Ward to Northwest Vets

With Denise Choquette retiring this month, Julie Bean stepping into the role of Office Manager for Northwest Vets. We are excited to introduce our newest office staff member hired to assist Julie, Erin Ward. You will be getting to know Erin as you call the office to schedule calls/clinics and order medications, but here is a little brief biography to start the introduction process.



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Erin was born and raised in Franklin County. She has worked in the medical field her entire life and has worn many hats throughout her career -- from her early days collecting blood samples, to working in a pathology lab by way of her education with Purdue University Indianapolis, to analyzing surgical specimens as Histotechnician, and then on to the hospital administrative offices. She has seen a lot in the world of healthcare and is eager to broaden her experience to include animal health.

Erin is excited to combine her clinical and administrative skill sets while continuing to learn new ones along the way. She is constantly looking for ways to improve her work and help others with a friendly smile.

Outside the workplace, she loves spending time with her husband and daughter at the lake, on the trails, strolling through town, cuddling on the couch, or dancing in the kitchen! She also enjoys music, books, yoga, photography and graphic design, and is hoping to get back into woodworking later this year.

Birth Announcement

Dr. Linden and I are overjoyed to announce the arrival of our son, James Thomas Linden. James was born healthy and happy Saturday September 26th at 1:40pm. We are all doing well, navigating the path of being first time parents, and are so incredibly in love with our little James!

