Certificates of Veterinary Inspection

What is a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection?
A certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI), often referred to as a health certificate, is a document tracking interstate travel of animals. In order to receive a CVI, horses must be inspected by an accredited veterinarian in order to identify the animals and ensure they are not showing any signs of contagious or infectious disease. Proof of a negative Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) test is required for crossing state lines. Most states require a negative Coggins test within 1 year, although there are a few states that require one within 6 months or during the current calendar year.

What is the purpose of a CVI?
The purpose of a CVI is to track animal movement. In the case of a disease outbreak, this information is used to track the disease back to its source and then identify animals that have potentially been exposed or infected. This information can be very valuable in containing infectious disease outbreaks and limiting further spread.

When do I need a CVI?
A CVI is required whenever you are traveling across state lines with your horse, or if you are traveling to an event within your state that requires one. A CVI is valid for one destination only, so if you are traveling to multiple locations, you will need multiple CVIs. There are a few exceptions where a CVI is not required, such as if you are taking your horse to receive veterinary care.

How long is a CVI valid?
In general, a CVI is valid for 30 days from the date of inspection. However, some events may require that the inspection take place within a shorter time period, such as 10 days prior to the event.

What information is required for a CVI?
- A Negative Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) test
- Address of origin of the horse
- Address of destination
- Date you plan to leave
- Name, address, and phone number of the person hauling the horse

It is helpful to have at least 1 week notice to ensure we have all of the proper information and testing performed, so remember to plan ahead when you are traveling with your horses and call with any questions as you are planning your trip.