



Updated: December 23, 2020

Writer's Guidelines

Thanks for considering writing for The Maryland Veterinarian (TMV). This guide is designed to answer all of your questions for submitting articles to the digital publication. Feel free to contact the editorial team with additional questions or for advanced article concept approval at 410-305-7083 or info@mdvma.org

The Maryland Veterinarian is the official publication of the MDVMA. TMV maintains the highest standards of intellectual quality, editorial excellence, and design to service its readers who are working to advance veterinary medicine across the state.

Types of Articles in The Maryland Veterinarian:

Our articles are designed to increase the productivity, efficiency, and knowledge of veterinary industry professionals. Because the MDVMA is the professional association of the entire veterinary industry in Maryland, the magazine focuses on the entire team; that is: the veterinarian, certified veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, practice manager, office manager, CEO, bookkeeper, administrative assistant, etc.

Topics:

Scientific veterinary practice, wellness, and business articles are welcome. Other examples of topics include: hot topics, innovative technology, new treatment, infectious/contagious disease, behavior, nutrition, surgical techniques, pharmaceuticals, therapeutics, business, legal, opinion, etc.

Style:

We are interested in features, not reports or news articles. So, please approach your submission as a magazine article not a report or journal paper. It should be a narrative with a beginning, middle, and end, filled with anecdotes and the voices of professional, owners, and experts (even if that is you). If the article is about medicine, tell a story about it and how the problem was solved. We want others to be able to apply or adapt successful practices to their own situation. Papers written for academic assignments are almost never appropriate for TMV without significant revision.

Length, Font, Spacing, and File Type:

Length - Our standard bread and butter articles are 500-800 words with cover articles and special features 800-1500 words. Rarely do we accept cover articles and special features from writers we are working with the first time. Usually, we invite writers to these coveted spots after knowing their work, style, quality, and timeliness. Thus, plan to stick to 500-800 words unless otherwise requested.

Font – Arial, 12 point

Spacing – Single Spaced. No beginning or ending paragraph spacing. One space (carriage return) between paragraphs. Block style (no indents).

File Type – We prefer MS Word (.docx) but will also accept text files (.txt. and .rtf)

Titles, Subtitles, and Call-outs:

The Maryland Veterinarian is a magazine for busy professionals. Catch their attention with your title. Be creative. Have flair. Think: Marketing. We prefer the use of very short subtitles within the article to break up thoughts, topics, and sub-topics. (Please note: titles and subtitles may be rewritten by the Editor). If you have related information, data, charts, graphs, etc., provide them at the end of your article as a possible “call-out” that we may use, space providing. You may submit information for up to two call-out suggestions.

About the Author:

Include your full pen name at the beginning with post-nominal letters and your contact info at the end (can include some or all the following: phone, email, social media). The middle can be your biography, why you like to write, a call to action, or some other marketing. Just make sure it is 30-70 words or the editorial team might add, cut, or change your favorite part.

Sample About the Author:

Joe Cool, DVM is a recognized leader in veterinary emergency medicine and triage advancements. His best-selling book, “Snoopy’s Veterinary Emergency Procedures” is considered the authority by many veterinary schools and hospitals. He is a top draw speaker at veterinary conferences across the country. Dr. Cool can be reached via Facebook @CoolVetDr, email Snoopy@CoolVetDr.com, or call 123.555.1212.

Photos and Images:

Supporting photos files must be high resolution of at least 300 dpi in .jpg or .png format. The total size of the e-mail must be under 1MB. Along with your photos, include in your text file information for the caption for the photo(s). Be specific, but limit captions to 30 words or less. Please reference the article in your message so we can properly pair the image with your article. **IMPORTANT:** Do not include photos within your article text document. Attach them separately.

Submission:

We only accept submissions electronically via our web portal at MDVMA.org. From the home page, click on **News** in the top navigation, this will take you to our blog. On the right-hand side of the page there is a sidebar with an option labeled “**The Maryland Veterinarian**”. Click the button below labeled “**Call for Articles**”. All submissions should include: your suggested title, the article, your name as you want it printed with all post-nominal letters, your email address, your phone number, your mailing address, “About the Author”, supporting photos, if any.

Submission to Other Publications:

TMV does accept articles that have been, or will be, published elsewhere, including online. Just be sure not to violate any copyrights or license agreements that you may have signed.

Editorial Policies:

Approved articles will be scheduled for publication at the editor's discretion and will be edited to conform to the magazine's style and format. All articles submitted to TMV are subject to editing for clarity, grammar, and length. Titles and subtitles may be rewritten by the editor.

Accuracy:

Copy should be accurate. TMV cannot assume responsibility for the accuracy of facts, figures, or names in submitted copy. Before submitting material, verify the spelling of names, titles, countries, and institutions. Use full names of organizations and agencies when first mentioned and provide abbreviations or acronyms in parentheses following. Abbreviate thereafter. Verify titles and quotations from printed sources. Confirm any deadline dates in your copy.

Acceptance and Publication:

We will acknowledge your article upon receipt. The decision to reject or accept an article is made as quickly as possible and we aim to inform authors of a decision within 30 days. We plan several months in advance for each issue. Once your article has been accepted and scheduled for a particular issue, the editorial team will contact you with that information.

Due Dates:

PRODUCTION	ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE
Spring – April 2021	March 12, 2021
Summer – August 2021	July 12, 2021
Winter – December 2021	November 12, 2021