The Board of Veterinary Medicine conducted a frequency analysis of deficiencies cited during veterinary establishment inspections. To keep licensees informed about compliance requirements, the most commonly cited deficiencies will be identified in a monthly email during 2017. This month’s highlighted requirement is the following:

**Regulations Governing the Practice of Veterinary Medicine** state the following regarding emergency lighting in a surgery suite:

18VAC150-20-200. Standards for veterinary establishments.

A. Full-service establishments. A full-service establishment shall provide surgery and encompass all aspects of health care for small or large animals, or both. All full-service establishments shall meet the requirements set forth below:

4. Equipment; minimum requirements.

b. Surgery suite.

   (3) Automatic emergency lighting;

B. Restricted establishments. When the scope of practice is less than full service, a specifically restricted establishment permit shall be required. Upon submission of a completed application, satisfactory inspection and payment of the permit fee, a restricted establishment permit may be issued. Such restricted establishments shall have posted in a conspicuous manner the specific limitations on the scope of practice on a form provided by the board.
2. Small animal establishment, house call practice...Surgery may be performed only in a surgical suite which has passed inspection.

3. Small animal establishment, outpatient practice. This practice may include surgery, provided the facility or ambulatory practice is equipped with a surgery suite as required...

18VAC150-20-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Automatic emergency lighting" is lighting which is powered by battery, generator, or alternate power source other than electrical power, is activated automatically by electrical power failure, and provides sufficient light to complete surgery or to stabilize the animal until surgery can be continued or the animal moved to another establishment.

Questions may be directed to the vetbd@dhp.virginia.gov

Website: Board of Veterinary Medicine