

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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NEWS Release

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For Immediate Release

**Contact: Bobbi Jo Kahl
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Health Department Schedules Rabies Clinics

The Oneida County Health Department has scheduled a series of rabies clinics for 2013. The next clinic will be held on Wednesday, **March 20th** from **6-8 pm** at the Trenton Municipal Center. Seven additional dates and sites have currently been announced as follows:

- Monday, **April 15th** from **5-7 pm** at the Camden fire House
- Wednesday, **May 15th** from **6-8 pm** at the Clark Mills Firehouse
- Tuesday, **May 21st** from **6:15 – 8 pm** at the Willowvale Firehouse
- Wednesday, **May 22nd** from **6-8 pm** at *Back to Basics*, Route 28 in Forestport
- Wednesday, **June 19th** from **6-8 pm** at the Boonville Fairgrounds
- Tuesday, **July 16th** from **6-8 pm** at Rome City Hall
- Monday, **July 29th** from **5-7 pm** at the Annsville Highway Garage
- Monday, **August 26th** from **5-7 pm** at the Vienna Highway Garage

“The rabies vaccine is not only the best way to protect your pet from this deadly virus, it’s the law,” Bobbi Jo Kahl, Rabies Prevention and Treatment Program Coordinator said. She added, *“If your pet is exposed to rabies without the protection the vaccine affords, it would have to be quarantined for six months or euthanized, and any humans who had contact with the pet might require treatment, as well.”*

According to New York State Health Law, all dogs, cats and pet ferrets 3 months and older must be vaccinated against rabies. Dogs and cats require a second vaccination at 1-year and then a booster vaccine every three years. Ferrets must be vaccinated every year. Pets must be leashed or in a animal carrier and a ten dollar donation to help offset costs is requested, but not required.

Kahl said her department was working to secure additional dates and sites throughout Oneida County for pets owners to bring their pets for the vaccination. Additional clinics will be announced in the media and posted on the Health Department’s web site at www.ocgov.net/oneida/health.

For more information call the Oneida County Health Department at **798-5064**.