



ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Skunk Tests Positive for Rabies in Town of Forestport *Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies*

A skunk has tested positive for rabies in the Town of Forestport. The skunk was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on October 26, 2022 and positive results were reported on October 27, 2022. One person was exposed to the skunk and received post exposure prophylaxis.

Signs of rabies include:

- Animal acting strangely
- Animal acting mad
- Animal acting shy
- The animal may get unusually close
- Drooling or foaming from the mouth

If you see an animal, wild or stray, with these signs, do not approach it and stay away. If any animal is acting strangely, call your local animal control officer for help.

For the safety of pets and the convenience of county residents, the Oneida County Health Department offers Rabies Vaccination Clinics throughout the year in various community locations.

Health Department Officials offer the following vaccination recommendations:

- All cats, dogs and ferrets three months or older must have a current rabies vaccination, even if they stay indoors.
- Dogs and cats must receive a rabies vaccination at three months-old, one year-old and then once every three years.
- Ferrets must receive a rabies vaccination every year.

For more information on Rabies Prevention, contact the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064 or log onto our web site at <https://www.ocgov.net/oneida/envhealth/MosquitoesTicksRabies>.

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