



ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

August 16, 2023
For Immediate Release

Contact: Megan Graziano
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Multiple Kittens Test Positive for Rabies in City of Rome *Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies*

Four kittens have tested positive for rabies in Rome. The kittens were sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on August 14 and August 15, 2023 and positive results were reported on August 15 and August 16, 2023. Nine people were exposed and have received post exposure prophylaxis.

Signs of rabies include:

- Animal acting strangely
- Animal acting mad
- Animal acting shy
- Animal getting 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.

If you are concerned you may have been exposed to a rabid animal or find a bat in your home, call Oneida County Health Department for guidance.

Per NYS Public Health Law, all dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated by 4 months-old and then one year following the initial dose. Dogs and cats need to receive a booster dose every three years following. Ferrets must receive booster doses annually. 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. The following rabies vaccination clinics have been scheduled:

- August 21, 2023 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Rome Kennedy Arena
- October 19, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Town of Trenton Offices

Appointments are required for the clinics. For more information on rabies prevention, or to make an appointment for an upcoming rabies vaccination clinic, contact the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064 or log onto our web site at ocgov.net/rabies.

ADMINISTRATION

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5TH FL.,
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TEL: (315) 798-6400 • FAX: (315) 266-6138

SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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