



# ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

## News Release

**Date: May 28, 2024**  
**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Megan Graziano**  
**315-798-5229**

## **Fox Tests Positive for Rabies in Town of Verona** *Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies*

A fox has tested positive for rabies in the Town of Verona. The fox was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on May 24, 2024 and positive results were reported on May 25, 2024. One person was exposed to this fox 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, do not approach it and stay away. If despite your best efforts you are bit by the animal, or have come into contact with the animal's saliva, seek medical attention and contact the Oneida County Health Department to determine next steps. Rabies is a deadly disease and if you become exposed, it is vital to get appropriate care to avoid contracting rabies.

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 with the next one being in Rome. Additional rabies vaccinations clinics have also been scheduled.

- June 3, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Annsville Highway Garage
- July 22, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Garage
- August 19, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Rome Kennedy Arena

For more information on rabies prevention, visit [ocgov.net/rabies](http://ocgov.net/rabies). If you have questions or are concerned about a possible rabies exposure, contact the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

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