



# ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

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## News Release

**Date: 5/23/2022**  
**For Immediate Release**

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**315-798-5229**

## **Bat Tests Positive for Rabies in Town of New Hartford** *Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies*

A bat has tested positive for rabies in the Town of New Hartford. The bat was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing May 19, 2022 and positive results were reported the following day. One cat was exposed to the bat and will be quarantined as a result. Indoor animals are still susceptible to rabies as rabid animals can get into people's homes, especially bats. Without the protection of vaccination, unvaccinated animals who are exposed to rabies are not only at risk of death, but may be subject to a lengthy quarantine. There were no human exposures.

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. Locations, dates and times of upcoming clinics are being determined and will be publicized soon.

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, 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>.

#### ADMINISTRATION

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5<sup>TH</sup> FL.,  
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#### SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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#### CLINICAL SERVICES

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