ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

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News Release

Date: July 24, 2020 **Contact: Megan Graziano** For Immediate Release 315-798-5229

Raccoon Tests Positive for Rabies in Town of Kirkland

Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies

A raccoon has tested positive for rabies in the Town of Kirkland. The raccoon was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on July 22, 2020 and positive results were reported on July 23, 2020.

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. The following rabies vaccination clinics have been scheduled:

- July 27th Vienna Town Garage 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- August 7th Rome City Hall 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- September 21st Annsville Highway Garage 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Please follow COVID guidelines:

- Remain in your vehicle with your pet.
- Masks are required when transferring your pet to staff.
- You must make an appointment. You can pre-register for the upcoming clinic by calling 315-798-5064 or online at https://www.health.ny.gov/gotoclinic.

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