

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Oneida County Executive

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

Date: January 14, 2021 For Immediate Release **Contact: Megan Graziano** 315-798-5229

2 Animals Test Positive for Rabies in Oneida County

Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies

A raccoon has tested positive for rabies in the Town of Kirkland and a bat tested positive for rabies in Rome. Both animals were sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on January 12, 2021 and positive results were reported on January 13, 2021. A cat was exposed to the bat and received a booster. No people were exposed to either animal.

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, 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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