



ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DANIEL W. GILMORE, PH.D., MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Oneida County Health Department Announces Upcoming Rabies Vaccination Clinics

The Oneida County Health Department (OCHD) will be hosting four rabies vaccination clinics starting in this month.

The events will take place:

- June 14, 2022 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Annsville Highway Garage. [Registration link here](#)
- July 26, 2022 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Garage. [Registration link here](#)
- August 22, 2022 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Rome Kennedy Arena. [Registration link here](#)
- October 7, 2022 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Town of Trenton Offices. [Registration link here](#)

Appointments are required for the clinic and can be made by calling 315-798-5064 or online at <https://ocgov.net/health>. A \$10 donation per pet is requested to help with costs. The following guidelines apply:

- **Per NYS Public Health Law, all dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated by 4 months old. Dogs and cats need another dose at age 1 and then receive a booster dose every 3 years following. Ferrets must receive booster doses annually.**
- **Pets will receive a 1 year certificate if no prior proof of rabies vaccination is shown.**
- **Dogs need to be on a leash and cats need to be in a carrier or laundry basket.**

Rabies is a deadly disease that affects the brain and kills both animals and humans. Animals pass the virus through saliva when the infected animal bites. Any mammal can get rabies, but bats, skunks, foxes and raccoons are most common. Without quick treatment, the rabies virus can lead to death. Last year, the county Health Department investigated 510 cases of human or pet contact with a variety of potentially rabid animals including bats, foxes, skunks, cats, raccoons and horses. Seven animals were lab confirmed positive for rabies. Fortunately, rabies is also almost 100 percent preventable for your pets if they are vaccinated.

"Prevention is key," said Daniel W. Gilmore, Ph.D., MPH, Director of Health. "Rabies can be fatal, but there are measures we can take to protect ourselves and our pets. Have your pets vaccinated and avoid contact with wild animals. Rabies vaccinations not only protects your pet, but it also protects you, your family and the community."

ADMINISTRATION

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-6400 • FAX: (315) 266-6138

SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5249 • FAX: (315) 731-3491

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 4TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5064 • FAX: (315) 798-6486

CLINICAL SERVICES

406 ELIZABETH ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5748 • FAX: (315) 798-1057

In addition to pet vaccination, Gilmore recommends the following:

- Do not touch or feed wild or unknown animals.
- Do not touch dead or sick animals.
- Learn the signs of rabies in animals.
- Seek immediate medical attention if you have contact with an animal you think may be rabid.
- Call animal control to remove all stray animals from your neighborhood since these animals may be unvaccinated or ill.
- Report all animal bites to the county Health Department.

For the safety of pets and the convenience of county residents, the county Health Department offers rabies vaccination clinics throughout the year in various community locations. Last year, OCHD vaccinated 371 pets.

All cats, dogs, and ferrets four months or older must have a current rabies vaccination, even if they stay indoors. Unvaccinated pets or pets whose vaccinations have lapsed could be euthanized or quarantined for an extended period of time if exposed to rabies.

For more information on rabies prevention, contact the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064 or log onto our website at <https://www.ocgov.net/oneida/envhealth/MosquitoesTicksRabies>.