



Anthony J. Picente, Jr Oneida County Executive

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

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## **Oneida County Health Department Announces Upcoming Rabies Vaccination Clinics**

The Oneida County Health Department, in cooperation with the City of Rome and Towns of Annsville and Vienna, will hold the following upcoming rabies vaccination clinics:

- July 27<sup>th</sup> Vienna Town Garage 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
  - August 7<sup>th</sup> Rome City Hall 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- September 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

Rabies is a deadly disease that affects the brain and kills both animals and humans. Animals pass the virus 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. Fortunately, rabies is also almost 100 percent preventable for your pets if they are vaccinated.

"It is extremely important to keep your pets up to date on all vaccinations especially rabies," said Director of Health Phyllis D. Ellis, BSN, MS, FACHE. "This not only protects your pet, but it also protects you, your family and the community".

All cats, dogs and ferrets three months or older must have a current rabies vaccination, even if they stay indoors. Pets will receive a one-year certificate if no prior proof of rabies is shown. Ferrets must be vaccinated each year. At the clinic, dogs must be kept on a leash and cats need to be in a carrier or laundry basket. No exams will be given. A \$10 donation per pet is requested to help with costs.

For questions about rabies or if you suspect a pet has been exposed to rabies, contact the Health Department at 315-798-5064. For more information on rabies prevention, visit www.ocgov.net/oneida/health

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