



ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Raccoon Tests Positive for Rabies in Town of Whitestown *Oneida County Health Department Stresses Recognizing Rabies Indicators*

A raccoon has tested positive for rabies in the Town of Whitestown. The raccoon was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on April 29, 2020, and positive results were reported the following day. One adult had exposure to the raccoon and received post-exposure prophylaxis.

According to the Oneida County Health Department signs of rabies include:

- Animal acting strangely.
- Animal acting angry.
- Animal acting timid.
- Animal getting unusually close to humans.
- 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. As of now, dates of future clinics will be released at later time.

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

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