

Rabies Control Program

The Tompkins County Health Department held free rabies clinics in Lansing, Danby, Dryden, Enfield, and Ithaca in May 2014. 517 cats, dogs, and ferrets received vaccinations at these clinics. Keeping domestic animals vaccinated against rabies is perhaps the best way to reduce risk of human exposure to rabies.

There were no confirmed rabid animals in the county during May.

Key Data Overview				
	This Month	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	TOTAL 2013
Bites¹	13	45	87	234
Non Bites²	7	14	15	66
Referrals to Other Counties	3	12	21	47
Submissions to the Rabies Lab	6	41	45	203
Human Post-Ex Treatments	7	19	20	88
Unvaccinated Pets 6-Month Quarantined³	0	0	3	3
Unvaccinated Pets Destroyed⁴	0	0	0	0
Rabid Animals (Lab Confirmed)	0	2	3	8

¹"Bites" include all reported bites inflicted by mammals and any other wounds received while saliva is present.

²"Non-bites" include human exposures to saliva of potentially rabid animals. This also includes bats in rooms with sleeping people or young children where the bat was unavailable for testing.

³When an otherwise healthy, unvaccinated pet has contact with a rabid animal, or suspect rabid animal, that pet must be quarantined for 6 months or euthanized. Quarantine must occur in a TCHD-approved facility (such as a kennel) at the owner's expense. If the pet is still healthy at the end of 6 months, the exposure did not result in rabies and the pet is released.

⁴ Pets must be euthanized if they are unvaccinated and have been in contact with a rabid or suspect rabid animal and begin to display signs consistent with rabies. Alternatively, a pet is euthanized if a prescribed 6-month quarantine cannot be performed or the owners elect euthanasia instead of quarantine.

Reports by Animal Type												
	Bites				Animals sent to the NYS Rabies Laboratory				Rabid Animals			
	Mo	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	Total 2013	By TCHD	By Cornell	Totals		Mo	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	Total 2013
							Mo	YTD				
Cat	4	18	26	80	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Dog	8	25	56	133	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Cattle	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Horse/Mule	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheep/Goat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Domestic	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Raccoon	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	1	1	1
Bats	0	0	0	5	2	0	2	20	0	1	2	6
Skunks	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foxes	0	0	1	3	0	2	2	3	0	0	0	1
Other Wild	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Totals	13	45	66	234	3	3	6	41	0	2	3	8