

Rabies Control Program

There were two rabid animals confirmed by the New York Wadsworth Laboratory during July. One was a rabid bobcat that attacked two dogs. The other was a rabid bat that children were observed to be poking with sticks. The bat incident involved an extensive search for the identities of the children to determine if any of them were bitten. The Tompkins County Health Department worked with the New York State Health Department, the Village of Dryden, and the media, to get the word out about the potential for exposure. The search failed to identify the children, leaving the question of exposure unanswered.

Key Data Overview				
	This Month	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	TOTAL 2013
Bites¹	19	86	135	234
Non Bites²	16	34	37	66
Referrals to Other Counties	7	24	34	47
Submissions to NYS Rabies Lab	23	74	96	203
Human Post-Ex Treatments	18	43	53	88
Unvaccinated Pets 6-Month Quarantined³	0	0	3	3
Unvaccinated Pets Euthanized⁴	0	0	0	0
Rabid Animals-Lab Confirmed	2	4	6	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	2	29	43	80	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	0
Dog	13	49	78	133	1	0	1	6	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
Other Domestic	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Raccoon	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	5	0	1	1	1
Bats	1	1	3	5	16	1	17	41	1	2	4	6
Skunks	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foxes	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	1
Other Wild	3	4	6	8	1	1	2	10	1	1	0	0
Totals	19	86	135	234	20	3	23	74	2	4	6	8