

Rabies Control ProgramNote: This report covers 2 months

There was one rabid animal confirmed by the New York Wadsworth Laboratory in Tompkins County during October. A rabid raccoon attacked a family of feral kittens killing at least two of them. During the attack, the mother cat fought with the raccoon. Because the mother cat was exposed and presumed to be unvaccinated since she was feral, the Tompkins County SPCA trapped the mother cat. No surviving kittens were found. The Tompkins County Health Department sent a mass mailing to people in the area alerting them to the situation, advising them to vaccinate all pets and avoid contact with feral cats. Unfortunately, the mother cat was euthanized since a six month quarantine was not feasible.

Key Data Overview				
	This Month	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	TOTAL 2013
Bites¹	13	156	220	234
Non Bites²	0	85	66	66
Referrals to Other Counties	2	39	47	47
Submissions to the Rabies Lab	9	185	197	203
Human Post-Ex Treatments	0	101	87	88
Unvaccinated Pets 6-Month Quarantined³	0	0	3	3
Unvaccinated Pets Destroyed⁴	0	0	0	0
Rabid Animals (Lab Confirmed)	1	12	8	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	8	58	77	80	0	1	1	11	0	0	0	0
Dog	5	84	122	133	1	0	1	10	0	0	0	0
Cattle	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	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	1	1	4	0	0	0	0
Domestic	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Raccoon	0	1	1	1	2	0	2	8	1	3	1	1
Bats	1	6	5	5	2	1	3	127	0	5	6	6
Skunks	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0
Foxes	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	1
Other Wild	0	4	8	8	0	1	1	12	0	1	0	0
Totals	13	156	200	234	5	4	9	185	1	12	8	8

Rabies Control Program

There were no confirmed cases of rabid animals in Tompkins County during December of 2014. However, rabies continues to be present in wildlife species such as bats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes throughout New York State. It is important to keep pet vaccinations current at all times. This includes indoor only pets, because bats and other wildlife species routinely find their way into homes.

Key Data Overview				
	This Month	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	TOTAL 2013
Bites¹	11	167	220	234
Non Bites²	1	86	66	66
Referrals to Other Counties	4	43	47	47
Submissions to the Rabies Lab	5	190	197	203
Human Post-Ex Treatments	2	103	87	88
Unvaccinated Pets 6-Month Quarantined³	0	0	3	3
Unvaccinated Pets Destroyed⁴	0	0	0	0
Rabid Animals (Lab Confirmed)	0	12	8	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	0	58	77	80	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0
Dog	10	94	122	133	1	0	1	11	0	0	0	0
Cattle	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	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	4	0	0	0	0
Domestic	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Raccoon	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	9	0	3	1	1
Bats	0	6	5	5	3	0	3	130	0	5	6	6
Skunks	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0
Foxes	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	1
Other Wild	1	5	8	8	0	0	0	12	0	1	0	0
Totals	11	167	200	234	4	1	5	190	0	12	8	8