

Rabies Control Program

Two raccoons, one fox, and two bats were confirmed positive for rabies by the Wadsworth Laboratory in October. One bat was found in a Cornell Graduate Student dormitory, however there were no exposures. The second bat was submitted by a wildlife rehabilitator who could confirm no exposures. One raccoon was found after it had entered a home through a heating duct, the other was found near a park office. No post exposure treatment was required in either situation. Two people received post exposure for contact with the rabid fox.

Fall Rabies Clinics were held in the towns of Caroline, Trumansburg, and the City of Ithaca. The 2017 clinics were well attended, with a total attendance of 1,150 pets vaccinated. The clinics were fully electronic this year, with pre-registration available online using the CDMS system. Paid Facebook advertising was used for the first time as well, and increased traffic to the Health Department Facebook page, including increased views and more followers of the page.

Key Data Overview				
	This Month	YTD 2017	YTD 2016	TOTAL 2016
Bites¹	18	243	200	230
Non Bites²	5	195	142	144
Referrals to Other Counties	3	21	39	46
Submissions to the NYS Rabies Lab	9	200	184	195
Human Post-Exposure Treatments	3	131	80	85
Unvaccinated Pets Quarantined³	0	0	4	4
Unvaccinated Pets Destroyed⁴	0	1	10	10
Rabid Animals (Lab Confirmed)	5	13	11	12

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 2017	YTD 2016	Total 2016	By TCHD	By Cornell	Totals		Mo	YTD 2017	YTD 2016	Total 2016
							Mo	YTD				
Cat	10	97	70	84	0	0	0	20	0	1	0	1
Dog	8	129	118	133	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0
Cattle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Horse/Mule	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheep/Goat	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Domestic	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Raccoon	0	2	2	3	3	0	3	9	2	4	3	3
Bats	0	7	1	1	4	1	5	131	2	5	3	7
Skunks	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Foxes	0	4	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	3	0	1
Other Wild	0	2	6	6	0	0	0	23	0	0	1	1
Totals	18	243	200	230	7	2	9	200	5	13	11	12