

Rabies Control Program

Tompkins County had one bat confirmed rabid by the New York State Wadsworth Laboratory during March. It was brought to a wildlife rehabilitator from another County, where it became ill and died after an extended observation. After working with Cornell, the Rehabilitator, and the other County, it was determined that no exposures occurred.

There was one interaction with a wildlife species where a person was bitten. The animal escaped and rabies post exposure shots were started. Another person was bitten by a dog while traveling in India. There is an extremely high rate of dog rabies in India, and the person started post exposure treatment out of State, continuing treatment in Tompkins County.

Key Data Overview		
	This Month	YTD
Bites¹	18	42
Non Bites²	0	4
Referrals to Other Counties	2	9
Submissions to the NYS Rabies Lab	7	17
Human Post-Exposure Treatments	2	8
Unvaccinated Pets 6-Month Quarantined³	0	1
Unvaccinated Pets Destroyed⁴	0	0
Rabid Animals (Laboratory Confirmed)	1	2

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

²Non-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	
	Month	YTD	By TCHD	By NYS Vet College	Totals		Month	YTD
					Month	YTD		
Cat	5	14	2	0	2	5	0	0
Dog	13	25	1	0	1	1	0	0
Cattle	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Horse/Mule	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheep/Goat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raccoon	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	1
Bats	0	0	1	1	2	5	1	1
Skunks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foxes	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other Wild	1	3	0	1	1	2	0	0
Totals	19	43	5	2	7	17	1	2