

RABIES MANUAL AND INSTRUCTIONS

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INTRODUCTION

RABIES MANUAL

In December 1991 with assistance from state and private agencies, the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association published the "State of Connecticut Manual for Rabies Management and Protocols". It served as an essential reference for veterinarians and other professionals who were expected to provide assistance and advice regarding rabies. In large part this web site is based on the manual and includes updated information with links that will provide further information about rabies and who to contact in the event of a rabies incident:

RABIES

Rabies is a viral disease of mammals caused by infection of the brain and spinal cord. In domestic animals and people, infection with the rabies virus is nearly always fatal. In many areas of the developing world including Asia, Africa, and South America, rabies infection is most often spread by dog bites. In the United States, where rabies in dogs has been largely eliminated, rabies is still widespread in wildlife populations requiring ongoing prevention and control activities. These activities include testing suspect rabid animals, enforcing animal vaccination and quarantine laws, and evaluating potential human and domestic animal exposures.

In 1991, a resurgence of rabies in Connecticut followed the spread of rabies in raccoons from southern states and resulted in the first rabid domestic animals in the state since the 1940's. The raccoon rabies outbreak reached Connecticut in March of that year, entering Fairfield County through New York State. Over the following 4 years, it spread to all eight counties and remains present throughout the state with raccoons serving as a source of rabies virus that can be spread to other animals.

People get rabies mainly from the bite of an infected animal. Other means of transmission are very rare. Symptoms in people usually appear 3-8 weeks after exposure starting with a flu-like illness and later characterized by confusion, agitation, hallucinations, and muscle paralysis. Once clinical signs of rabies appear, the disease progresses rapidly and is fatal. However, disease can be prevented by thorough wound cleaning and timely medical treatment that includes administration of one dose of immune globulin (antibodies) and four doses of vaccine over 2 weeks.

Rabies virus is also present in bats. All bat species in Connecticut feed on insects and normally avoid contact with other animal species and people. However, rabies infected bats occasionally bite and can transmit rabies.

The state response to rabies is an interagency effort coordinated by the Department of Agriculture that includes the Departments of Environmental Protection and Public Health and the University of Connecticut as well as the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association and municipal control officers.

RABIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Who to Call for Assistance

Department of Agriculture

For questions concerning domestic animals (e.g. biting incidents, quarantine, vaccination)

* Animal Control Division 860-713-2506 (M-F, 8:00-4:30)

* State Veterinarian 860-713-2505 (M-F, 8:00-4:30)

* <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1367&q=259098>

Department of Environmental Protection

For questions concerning wildlife (e.g. biting incidents, wildlife management, rehabilitation)

* Wildlife Division 860-424-3011 (M-F, 8:00-4:30)

* Environmental Conservation Police 860-424-3333 (after-hours)

* http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2723&q=325720&depNav_GID=1655&depNav=

Department of Public Health

For questions concerning rabies in people (e.g. risk assessment, treatment)

* Epidemiology Program 860-509-7994 (M-F, 8:30-4:30)

For questions concerning submission of animals for testing (e.g. packaging, forms)

* Virology Section, State Laboratory 860-509-8553 (M-F, 8:00-4:00)

* <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3136&q=396178>

Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association 860-635-7770

For questions regarding rabies clinics

* <http://www.ctvet.org/>

University of Connecticut

For questions regarding submission of livestock for testing (e.g. cost, requirements)

* Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory 860-486-3738 (M-F, 8:30-4:30)

* <http://cvmdl.uconn.edu/>

Local Animal Control Officer – found in the blue pages of the telephone directory

For reporting incidents of animals biting people or domestic animals

Local Health Department – listing available at

https://www.han.ct.gov/local_health/localmap.asp?bar=1

For questions concerning rabies in people (e.g. risk assessment, treatment)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For information about rabies in the United States

* <http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/>

⇒ When prompt assistance is needed call your local police department!

- If a wild animal bites a person and it can be safely captured without further risk of exposure, do so using a box or can and heavy leather gloves. If it cannot be safely captured, try to identify it before it goes away. Do not pick the animal up or have any other direct contact with it. For advice, call the Department of Environmental Protection. When prompt assistance is needed, call your local police department or animal control officer. The animal may need to be destroyed and submitted for testing. Because the test for rabies is done on the brain, care must be taken not to damage the animal's head.
- A bat bite may go unnoticed; therefore, when a bat is found in the same room as a person who might be unaware that direct contact occurred (e.g., a baby or child, or a sleeping, intoxicated, or mentally disabled person), it should be safely captured. Once captured, contact your local health department or animal control officer to make arrangements to test the animal.



If Your Pet Has Bitten Someone

- Tell the person bitten to see their doctor immediately.
- Report the bite to the local or state animal control officer.
- Confine the animal and watch it closely. Report any illness or unusual behavior to your veterinarian or local health department.
- Don't euthanize your pet, or allow it to be, within the 14-day quarantine period unless you have been advised to do so

by the public health authorities, a veterinarian, or the animal control officer.

- Check with your veterinarian about your pet's rabies vaccine status.
- After the recommended observation period, have your pet vaccinated for rabies if it does not have a current rabies vaccination.

Your Family Doctor

- It is critically important that you notify your family doctor immediately after an animal bite. If necessary, your doctor will give you anti-rabies treatment. Your doctor will also treat you for other possible infections that can be caused from the bite. The decision to start anti-rabies treatment is left to you and your physician. Staff in the Epidemiology and Emerging Infections Program, Department of Public Health, are available to provide consultation for physicians.



Connecticut Department of Public Health
 Epidemiology and Emerging Infections
 410 Capitol Avenue, MS# 11EPI
 P.O. Box 340308
 Hartford, CT 06134-0308
 Phone: 860-509-7994
 Fax: 860-509-7910
www.dph.state.ct.us

Department of Agriculture
 Animal Control Division
 860-713-2506
www.ct.gov/doag

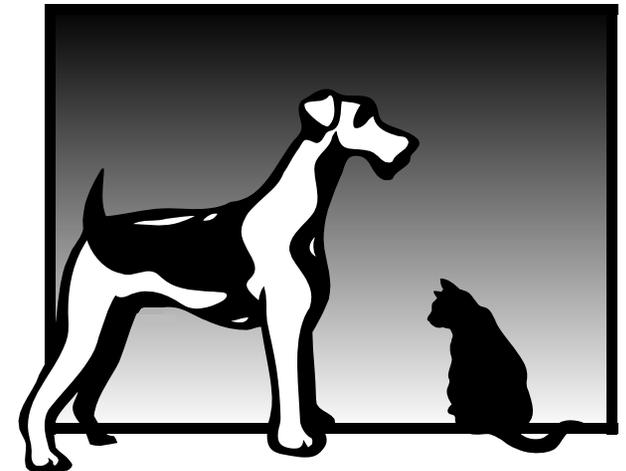
Department of Environmental Protection
 Wildlife Division
 860-424-3011
 Emergency dispatch
 860-424-3333
www.dep.state.ct.us

Connecticut Department of Public Health

LET WILDLIFE STAY WILD

RABIES

- **What you should know**
- **What you should do**



PROTECT YOUR PETS—VACCINATE

Facts About Rabies

- Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus that can infect mammals, including people.
- The rabies virus is present in the saliva of rabid animals. It is transmitted primarily by the bite of rabid animals and rarely by introducing saliva into an open wound, eye, or mouth.
- Only mammals get rabies; birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians do not.
- Raccoons, skunks, woodchucks, bats, foxes, dogs, cats, and some farm animals are most frequently diagnosed with rabies. 
- Squirrels, rats, chipmunks, and mice infrequently test positive.
- Rabies is widespread in the United States and in most parts of the world. Improved rabies vaccination programs and increased public education have decreased the number of cases among humans.
- In the eastern United States, animals other than bats are infected primarily with the raccoon strain of rabies virus, although bat strains can also infect wild and domestic animals. People can be infected with either strain; however, bat strains have been the main source.
- Since 1932, only one human case of rabies was acquired in Connecticut. In 1995, a 13-year-old Greenwich resident died as a result of infection with a bat strain of rabies virus. 

Vaccinate Your Dogs and Cats

- You can protect yourself and others by vaccinating your dogs and cats. If allowed outdoors unsupervised, your dog or cat is more likely to come in contact with a rabid wild animal.
- In Connecticut, all dog and cat owners or keepers are required by law to vaccinate their pets against rabies and to keep those vaccinations up to date. Owners are required to show a vaccination certificate as proof of current rabies vaccination in order to license their dogs.
- The law allows municipalities to sponsor annual, low cost rabies vaccine clinics for dogs and cats.
- Cats are not required to be licensed, but are required to be vaccinated against rabies.

What You Can do to Help Control Rabies

- Be a responsible pet owner.
- Discourage wild animals from having lunch with you by keeping areas around the home clean. Do not leave pet food or table scraps outside, and secure garbage can lids. 
- It is against the law to adopt wild animals as pets. They are a potential rabies threat to their owners and to others. Enjoy all wild animals from a distance, even if they seem friendly. A rabid animal sometimes acts tame. If you see a wild animal acting strangely, report it to the local police or animal control officer or the Department of Environmental Protection. Do not go near it.

- Dogs and cats should not be allowed to roam. They should be confined to the owner's property within a fenced-in area or kept on a leash when being walked.  Confinement to the property will lessen the probability of contact with a wild animal. Report strange acting cats and dogs to the local animal control officer.
- Bats should be kept out of places with a possibility of contact with people, such as homes and schools.
- If your pet is bitten or has had physical contact with a potentially rabid wild animal, contact your veterinarian or local animal control officer for further advice.

If You Are Bitten

- Don't panic, but don't ignore the bite either.
- Wash the wound thoroughly with soap and lots of water. This will greatly lessen the chance of infection. Give first aid as you would for any puncture wound.
- Call your doctor immediately. Explain how you got the bite and follow the doctor's advice. 
 - For additional advice call your local health department.
- When a dog or cat bites a human, try to safely capture it for testing or quarantine by authorities. The quarantine period is 14 days. If the animal is clinically well after 14 days, there is no danger of rabies transmission to the person bitten. Any domestic pet bite should be reported to your local or state animal control officer.

RABIES MANAGEMENT OF DOGS, CATS, AND FERRETS EXPOSED TO WILDLIFE
(Raccoon, Fox, Skunk, Bat, Woodchuck, Opossum, Coyote, or any carnivorous wild animal)

Exposure Category	If Dog, Cat, or Ferret Currently Vaccinated	If Dog, Cat, or Ferret Not Currently Vaccinated
DIRECT CONTACT OR VISIBLE BITE from <u>confirmed rabid animal</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Booster immediately * 2. Notify local director of health, local animal control officer and state animal control officer 3. Strict confinement 45 days 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Notify local director of health, local animal control officer and state animal control officer b. Quarantine 6 months c. Vaccinate at least 1 month before release
DIRECT CONTACT OR VISIBLE BITE from <u>suspect rabid animal</u> (animal unavailable for testing)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Booster immediately * 2. Notify local director of health, local animal control officer and state animal control officer 3. Strict confinement 45 days 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Notify local director health, local animal control officer and state animal control officer b. Quarantine 3 months and then strict confinement for 3 additional months c. Vaccinate at end of 3 month quarantine period
WOUND OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN: Suspected to be caused by scratch/bite (e.g. cat abscesses)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Booster immediately * 2. Close observation by owner for 45 days 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strict confinement for 6 months 2. Vaccinate immediately 3. Approval of enclosure by the animal control officer may not be necessary.
EXPOSURE BY PROXIMITY (seen near or in same area as confirmed rabid animal – no contact or wounds)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider booster* 2. Close observation by owner for 45 days 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vaccinate immediately 2. Advise close observation by owner for 6 months
*If most recent rabies vaccination was administered within 1 month, it is not necessary to re-vaccinate.		

1. The State Veterinarian must be notified of any domestic animals suspected of having rabies.
2. Always wear gloves when handling saliva contaminated wounds or fur.
3. Always advise owner of rabies risk. (Provide copy of Rabies Advisory notice)

<p>DEFINITIONS:</p> <p><u>Close Observation</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Animal may be kept at home. b) Owner informed of potential rabies and given copy of Rabies Advisory notice. c) Owner required to immediately notify veterinarian or animal control officer of unusual behavior or change in health status of pet. <p><u>Quarantine</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Animal to be confined off owner's premises in a state approved facility, i.e. dog pound, veterinary hospital or commercial kennel. b) Isolate animal from human and animal contact. 	<p><u>Strict Confinement</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Animal may be kept at home in the house, garage or some other escape proof building or enclosure approved by the animal control officer. b) May be leash walked under immediate control of an adult within the confines of the premises only. c) Animal may not be allowed contact with other animals or humans other than the designated caretaker. d) Owner is informed of potential rabies and given copies of Rabies Advisory notice and strict confinement instructions. e) Animal is observed daily and owner is required to immediately notify the animal control officer of any unusual behavior or change in the health status of the animal. f) Owner is not allowed to sell, give away, kill or otherwise dispose of the animal during the confinement period without the permission of the State Veterinarian. g) In the event the animal escapes or dies the owner must immediately notify the animal control officer.
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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
860-713-2506

RABIES ADVISORY NOTICE

Rabies is a fatal disease of warm blooded mammals caused by a virus, most frequently spread through a bite from an infected animal. Bites are the main route of transmission because a diseased animal has the rabies virus in its saliva, and frequently will bite other animals.

This notice is being given to you because your dog, cat, or ferret came into contact with a known or suspect rabid animal, has a bite from an unknown source, or has been seen near or in the same area as a known or suspect rabid animal. The vaccination status of your pet greatly influences the amount of risk an exposure poses to your pet. Your pet falls into one of the following categories:

A. UNVACCINATED FOR RABIES OR VACCINATION EXPIRED

(Check one)

___ **Direct Contact Or Bite From A Confirmed Rabid Animal**

Your pet has a high risk of developing rabies. For your protection, we strongly recommend that your pet be euthanized. The only other alternative is for you to allow your pet to be quarantined in a state approved facility for six months. The proper local and state officials will be notified that this exposure had occurred.

___ **Direct Contact Or Bite From A Suspect Rabid Animal**

Your pet has a high risk of developing rabies. For your protection, we strongly recommend that your pet be euthanized. The only other alternative is for you to allow your pet to be quarantined in a state approved facility for three months and then to strictly confine your pet at home in an escape proof enclosure approved by the local or state animal control officer for an additional three months. The proper local and state officials will be notified that this exposure had occurred.

___ **Wound of Unknown Origin**

Since we cannot be absolutely sure that the wound was not inflicted by a rabid animal, we advise you to strictly confine your pet at home in an escape proof enclosure for six months. Your pet should receive a vaccination for rabies immediately.

___ **Pet Seen In Or Near The Same Area As A Confirmed Rabid Animal**

We know that there are rabid animals in the vicinity and your pet may have come into contact with one without your knowledge. Your pet should immediately receive a vaccination for rabies. Be aware of the clinical signs of rabies and observe your pet closely over the next six months.

B. VACCINATION FOR RABIES CURRENT

(Check one)

- Direct Contact Or Bite From A Confirmed Or Suspect Rabid Animal**
Even highly effective vaccinations are not 100% effective. Your pet should receive a booster rabies vaccination immediately and be kept under strict confinement at home for 45 days in an escape proof enclosure approved by the local or state animal control officer. The proper local and state officials will be notified that this exposure has occurred.
- Wound Of Unknown Origin**
Be aware of the clinical signs of rabies and observe your pet closely over the next 45 days. Obtain a booster rabies vaccination for your pet.
- Pet Seen In Or Near The Same Area As A Confirmed Rabid Animal**
Your veterinarian will determine if there is a need for a booster rabies vaccination. Be aware of the clinical signs of rabies and observe your pet closely over the next 45 days.

CLINICAL SIGNS OF RABIES

Clinical signs of rabies in animals include fever, loss of appetite, excessive irritability, unusual vocalization, change in behavior, restlessness, jumping at noises, trouble walking, excess salivation, tremors, convulsions, paralysis, stupors or unprovoked aggression. Rabies usually begins subtly, with pet owners first noticing that their animal goes off its food and just "doesn't seem right". The animal may then become restless and irritable, have a "strange look in its eyes" and make funny sounding cries or barks. As the disease progresses, nervous system signs become more obvious with tremors appearing, difficult walking and swallowing, and even convulsions and paralysis developing. Affected animals may or may not try to bite or show other signs of aggression.

If your pet begins to show any of these signs; notify the local animal control officer and seek the care and advice of a veterinarian. Separate your animal from other animals and humans immediately.

Please contact your local animal control officer or the State Veterinarian if you have any questions about this notice.

- * Issued by: _____
- * Received by: _____
- * Date: _____

RABIES MANAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS BITTEN BY OTHER DOMESTIC ANIMALS
(Dogs, Cats or Ferrets)

Status of Attacker	If Victim is Currently Vaccinated	If Victim is Not Currently Vaccinated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOT CURRENTLY VACCINATED • UNKNOWN VACCINATION HISTORY • UNAVAILABLE FOR QUARANTINE 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Booster victim immediately * 2. Quarantine attacker for 14 days to determine rabies risk. 3. If quarantined attacker develops rabies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Notify local director of health, local animal control officer and state animal control officer b. Advise strict confinement of victim for 45 days. 4. If attacker unavailable for quarantine: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Advise close observation of victim by owner for 45 days. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vaccinate victim immediately 2. Quarantine attacker for 14 days to determine rabies risk. 3. If quarantined attacker develops rabies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Notify local director of health, local animal control officer and state animal control officer b. Quarantine victim for 6 months. c. Vaccinate victim at least 1 month prior to release. 4. If attacker unavailable for quarantine: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Advise close observation of victim by owner for 6 months.
<p>*If most recent rabies vaccination was administered within 1 month, it is not necessary to re-vaccinate.</p>		
CURRENTLY VACCINATED	No action necessary	Vaccinate victim immediately

1. The State Veterinarian must be notified of any domestic animals suspected of having rabies.
2. Always wear gloves when handling saliva contaminated wounds or fur.
3. Always advise owner of rabies risk. (Provide copy of Rabies Advisory notice)

<p><u>DEFINITIONS:</u></p> <p><u>Close Observation</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Animal may be kept at home. b) Owner informed of potential rabies and given copy of Rabies Advisory notice. c) Owner required to immediately notify veterinarian or animal control officer of unusual behavior or change in health status of pet. <p><u>Quarantine</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Animal to be confined off owner's premises in a state approved facility, i.e. dog pound, veterinary hospital or commercial kennel. b) Isolate animal from human and animal contact. 	<p><u>Strict Confinement</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Animal may be kept at home in the house, garage or some other escape proof building or enclosure approved by the animal control officer. b) May be leash walked under immediate control of an adult within the confines of the premises only. c) Animal may not be allowed contact with other animals or humans other than the designated caretaker. d) Owner is informed of potential rabies and given copies of Rabies Advisory notice and strict confinement instructions. e) Animal is observed daily and owner is required to immediately notify the animal control officer of any unusual behavior or change in the health status of the animal. f) Owner is not allowed to sell, give away, kill or otherwise dispose of the animal during the confinement period without the permission of the State Veterinarian. g) In the event the animal escapes or dies the owner must immediately notify the animal control officer.
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RABIES MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK

Prevention and Control

Consideration should be given to vaccinating livestock that are particularly valuable. Animals for which there is a licensed rabies vaccine (horses, cattle and sheep), that have frequent contact with humans (e.g. petting zoos, fairs, riding stables, shows, exhibitions, etc.) should be currently vaccinated against rabies.

Livestock from which raw (un-pasteurized) milk or milk products are produced for direct human consumption should be currently vaccinated against rabies.*

*(CDC . *Mass Treatment of Humans Who Drank Unpasteurized Milk from Rabid Cows – Massachusetts, 1996-1998.* MMWR 1999;48(11):228-229.)

Postexposure Management

- All livestock rabies exposures must be reported to the State Veterinarian. The degree of confinement will be related to the likelihood of rabies in the animal.
- Livestock exhibiting signs of abnormal behavior should be suspected of rabies. Under no circumstances should anyone place their hands in the oral cavity of such animal.
- All species of livestock are susceptible to rabies.

A. CURRENTLY VACCINATED

Horses, cattle, and sheep vaccinated with an approved vaccine should be revaccinated immediately and placed under Type A confinement by the owner for a period of 45 days. Use only vaccines approved for use in livestock. (See current Compendium of Animal Rabies Control in Appendix X)

Type A Confinement:

- Animal is kept under confinement to prevent escape.
- Animal is not to be sold or relocated without permission of the State Veterinarian.

B. NOT CURRENTLY VACCINATED

Livestock bitten by a rabid animal should be destroyed (slaughtered) immediately. If the owner is unwilling to have this done, the animal should be kept under Type B confinement for six months at the discretion of the State Veterinarian.

Type B Confinement:

- Animal is kept in a secure stall or pen separate from other animals and humans.
- Human contact with the animal is kept to a minimum.
- Owner is not allowed to remove animal from premises except with permission of the State veterinarian.

C. HANDLING AND CONSUMPTION OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Handling and consumption of tissues from exposed animals may carry a risk of rabies transmission. Risk factors depend in part on the site(s) of exposure, amount of virus present, severity of wounds, and whether sufficient contaminated tissue has been excised. If an exposed animal is to be slaughtered for consumption, it should be done immediately after exposure and all tissues should be cooked thoroughly. Persons handling exposed animals, carcasses and tissues should use barrier precautions. Historically, federal guidelines for federal meat inspectors required that any animal known to have been exposed to rabies within 8 months be rejected for slaughter. USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) meat inspectors should be notified if such exposures occur in food animals prior to slaughter.**

Rabies virus may be widely distributed in tissues of infected animals. Tissues and products from a rabid animal should not be used for human or animal consumption. Pasteurization temperatures will inactivate rabies virus; therefore, drinking pasteurized milk or eating thoroughly cooked animal products does not constitute a rabies exposure.**

**(*Compendium of Animal Rabies Control, 2008*, National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians)

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Control of Rabies in Public Settings

(NEW) Section 22-359-1 Definitions.

As used in Sections 22-359-1 to 22-359-5, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies:

- (1) "Animal" means any warm blooded creatures, including bats.
- (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture or the Commissioner's designated agent.
- (3) "Controlled situation" means a public setting in which an animal is under the control of a handler and persons having direct physical contact with such animal can be readily identified and contacted if a rabies exposure incident occurs.
- (4) "Currently vaccinated" means an animal was vaccinated against rabies and is considered immunized based on administration of the primary vaccination at least 30 days previously or immediately after a booster vaccination and vaccinations have been administered in accordance with licensed rabies vaccine label directions.
- (5) "Licensed rabies vaccine" means a vaccine against rabies for certain species of animals licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture for use in such species and marketed in the United States.
- (6) "Not currently vaccinated" means an animal for which there is no licensed rabies vaccine or an animal for which there is a licensed rabies vaccine but such animal is under the minimum age to be vaccinated against rabies or does not satisfy the requirements of "currently vaccinated" as defined in subdivision (4) of this section.
- (7) "Public setting" means any event, facility or premise at which the public is invited and allowed to have direct physical contact with animals. Public settings include but are not limited to fairs, animal exhibitions, petting zoos, municipal pounds, animal shelters, nature centers, riding stables, pony rides, and educational programs.
- (8) "Rabies" means an infection of the central nervous system of mammals caused by viruses in the Rhabdovirus family that typically results in death.
- (9) "Uncontrolled situation" means a public setting at which persons have direct physical contact with an animal and such persons cannot be readily identified or contacted if a rabies exposure incident occurs.
- (10) "Vaccinated" means an animal was vaccinated against rabies in accordance with licensed rabies vaccine label directions.

(NEW) Section 22-359-2. Animals for which there is a licensed rabies vaccine. Exceptions.

- (1) No animal for which there is a licensed rabies vaccine may be in a public setting without being currently vaccinated for rabies.
- (2) Animals under the minimum age to be vaccinated, vaccinated animals offered for sale or adoption and animals residing in municipal pounds shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

(NEW) Section 22-359-3. Animals not currently vaccinated.

- (1) Written records shall be kept by the owner, keeper, or handler of any animal not currently vaccinated for rabies that is present in a public setting in a controlled situation. The written records shall include contact information for all persons having direct physical contact with such animal, including the names, addresses and telephone numbers of such persons and the date of contact. Such records shall be maintained for a period of six months and shall be made immediately available to the Commissioner upon request.
- (2) Any animal not currently vaccinated for rabies that is present in a public setting in an uncontrolled situation shall be separated from the public by sufficient means to avoid direct contact between people and animals, such as a double fence, plexiglas, or other device to avoid direct contact between people and animals as determined by the Commissioner, or a conspicuous sign shall be posted near the animal enclosure stating "CONNECTICUT RABIES ADVISORY NOTICE – DO NOT FEED OR TOUCH ANIMALS".

(NEW) Section 22-359-4. Exemptions.

- (1) Mice, rats, gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, and rabbits and any other animal in a public setting considered low risk for rabies transmission by the Commissioner which can be documented as being born and exclusively raised and kept in a manner that prohibits direct physical contact with wildlife are exempt from the provisions of sections 22-359-2 and 22-359-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
- (2) Birds, reptiles and amphibians shall be exempt from the provisions of sections 22-359-2 and 22-359-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
- (3) Animals which were bred at facilities licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture, and which can be documented as being born and exclusively raised and kept in a manner that prohibits direct physical contact with wildlife, and have at no time been co-mingled with animals that may have had direct physical contact with wildlife, are exempt from the provisions of sections 22-359-2 and 22-359-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

(NEW) Section 22-359-5. Penalty.

The Commissioner may impose civil penalties for any violation of the provisions of sections 22-359-2 and 22-359-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes section 22-7.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the proposed regulations is to protect public health by providing the Commissioner with the authority to institute such measures as he deems necessary to prevent the transmission of rabies associated with animals in public settings, including, but not limited to, fairs, shows, exhibitions, petting zoos, riding stables, farm tours, pet shops and educational exhibits.

(Effective August 4, 2009)

QUARANTINE AND EUTHANASIA OF BITING ANIMALS

Connecticut Law

Sec. 22-358. Killing of dogs doing damage. Quarantine of biting dogs, cats or other animals. Notice. Seizure. Euthanasia and examination of potentially rabid animals. Complaints by persons sustaining damage by dog to poultry, ratite, domestic rabbit, companion animal or livestock. Orders. Appeals. (a) Any owner or the agent of any owner of any domestic animal or poultry, or the Chief Animal Control Officer or any animal control officer or any municipal animal control officer, regional animal control officer or any police officer or state policeman, may kill any dog which he observes pursuing or worrying any such domestic animal or poultry.

(b) Any person who is bitten, or who shows visible evidence of attack by a dog, cat or other animal when such person is not upon the premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal may kill such dog, cat or other animal during such attack. Such person shall make complaint concerning the circumstances of the attack to the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer or the municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer of the town wherein such dog, cat or other animal is owned or kept. Any such officer to whom such complaint is made shall immediately make an investigation of such complaint.

(c) If such officer finds that the complainant has been bitten or attacked by such dog, cat or other animal when the complainant was not upon the premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal the officer shall quarantine such dog, cat or other animal in a public pound or order the owner or keeper to quarantine it in a veterinary hospital, kennel or other building or enclosure approved by the commissioner for such purpose. When any dog, cat or other animal has bitten a person on the premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer, any municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer may quarantine such dog, cat or other animal on the premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal. The commissioner, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer, any municipal animal control officer or any regional animal

control officer may make any order concerning the restraint or disposal of any biting dog, cat or other animal as the commissioner or such officer deems necessary. Notice of any such order shall be given to the person bitten by such dog, cat or other animal within twenty-four hours. The owner of such animal shall pay all fees as set forth in section 22-333. On the fourteenth day of such quarantine the dog, cat or other animal shall be examined by the commissioner or someone designated by the commissioner to determine whether such quarantine shall be continued or removed. Whenever any quarantine is ordered under the provisions of this section, notice thereof shall be given to the commissioner and to the person bitten or attacked by such dog, cat or other animal within twenty-four hours. Any owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal who fails to comply with such order shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both. If an owner or keeper fails to comply with a quarantine or restraining order made pursuant to this subsection, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer, any municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer may seize the dog, cat or other animal to insure such compliance and the owner or keeper shall be responsible for any expenses resulting from such seizure. Any person aggrieved by an order of any municipal animal control officer, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer or any regional animal control officer may request a hearing before the commissioner within fourteen days of the issuance of such order. After such hearing, the commissioner may affirm, modify or revoke such order as the commissioner deems proper. Any dog owned by a police agency of the state or any of its political subdivisions is exempt from the provisions of this subsection when such dog is under the direct supervision, care and control of an assigned police officer, has been vaccinated annually and is subject to routine veterinary care.

(d) Any dog, while actually worrying or pursuing deer, may be killed by the Chief Animal Control Officer or an animal control officer or by a conservation officer or special conservation officer appointed by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or by any police officer or state policeman. The owner or keeper of any dog found worrying or pursuing a deer shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars or more than two hundred dollars or be imprisoned not more than sixty days, or both.

(e) Any person who kills any dog, cat or other animal in accordance with the provisions of this section shall not be held criminally or civilly liable therefor.

(f) The owner of any dog, cat or other animal which has bitten or attacked a person and has been quarantined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may authorize the humane euthanization of such dog, cat or other animal by a licensed veterinarian at any time before the end of the fourteenth day of such quarantine. Any such dog, cat or other animal so euthanized before the end of the fourteenth day of quarantine shall be examined for rabies by the Connecticut Department of Public Health virology laboratory or any other laboratory authorized by the Department of Public Health to perform rabies examinations. The veterinarian performing the euthanasia shall be responsible for ensuring that the head of the euthanized animal is delivered by him or his designated agent within forty-eight hours to an appropriate laboratory designated by said department for rabies examination.

(g) Repealed by P.A. 05-175, S. 24.

(h) A person who sustains damage by a dog to such person's poultry, ratite, domestic rabbit, companion animal or livestock as defined in section 22-278 shall make complaint concerning circumstances of the attack by such dog on any such animal or livestock to the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer or the municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer of the town in which such dog is owned or kept. An officer to whom such complaint is made shall immediately investigate such complaint. If such officer finds that the complainant's animal has been bitten or attacked by a dog when the attacked animal was not on the premises of the owner or keeper of the attacking dog and provided the complainant's animal was under the control of the complainant or on the complainant's property, such officer, the commissioner, the Chief Animal Control Officer or any animal control officer may make any order concerning the restraint or disposal of such attacking dog as the commissioner or such officer deems necessary. An owner or keeper of such dog who fails to comply with such order shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both. If the owner or keeper of such dog fails to comply with an order made pursuant to this subsection, the Chief Animal Control

Officer or any animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer may seize the dog to ensure such compliance, and the owner or keeper of such dog shall be responsible for any expenses resulting from such seizure. A person aggrieved by an order of the Chief Animal Control Officer or any animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer made pursuant to this subsection may request a hearing before the commissioner not later than fourteen days after the issuance of such order. After such hearing, the commissioner may affirm, modify or revoke such order as the commissioner deems proper. A dog owned by a police agency of the state or any of its political subdivisions is exempt from the provisions of this section when such dog is under the direct supervision, care and control of an assigned police officer, has been vaccinated annually and is subject to routine veterinary care.

RABIES

WILDLIFE SITUATIONS

(Raccoon, Fox, Skunk, Bat, Woodchuck, Coyote, Opossum, Bobcat and any other carnivorous wild animal)

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Advice to Public</u>	<u>Response by ACO, PD or DEP</u>
Direct Contact with <i>Human</i> — i.e. visible bite or scratch from a wild animal.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediately clean wound with soap and water. 2. Contact physician for advice. 3. Monitor/contain the wild animal until help arrives. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contain wild animal, dispatch it and submit to DPH Virology Lab for testing (do not shoot animal in head). Always wear gloves when handling/transporting animal. 2. Contact local Health Dept. with information
Direct Contact with <i>Domestic Animal</i> — i.e. visible bite or scratch from a wild animal or a pet in contact with or in close proximity to a bat in the home.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wear gloves while handling pet. 2. Keep your pet away from other people and animals. 3. Monitor/contain the wild animal until help arrives. 4. Contact veterinarian for advice. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contain wild animal, dispatch it and submit to DPH Virology Lab for testing (do not shoot animal in head). Always wear gloves when handling/transporting animal. 2. Contact local Animal Control Officer with information.
Sick or Aggressive Wildlife -Wild Animal that is seen stumbling, staggering, extremely lethargic, paralyzed or walking in circles and/or falling down <u>OR</u> a wild animal is seen aggressively approaching and attempting to bite people, pets or inanimate objects.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stay away from the animal and monitor its location from a distance. Keep other people/pets away. 2. If safe to do so cover/contain animal until help arrives. 3. Contact local ACO, PD or DEP for assistance. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contain wild animal, dispatch it and consider submitting to DPH Virology Lab for testing (do not shoot animal in head if testing is needed and be sure to wear gloves). 2. Screen neighborhood to see if there was any possible contact with the wild animal prior to disposing of it. 3. Contact local ACO and/or local Health Dept. with information.
Bat found in living quarters with access to bedrooms where people were sleeping, or a situation with high probability that contact occurred between the bat and a person or pet.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If possible contain bat in a small container while wearing gloves and contact local Health Dept, ACO or DEP for transport to the DPH Virology Lab. 2. If bat unavailable, contact local Health Dept. or DPH Epidemiology Program at 860-509-7994 for advice. 3. Contact physician for medical advice. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retrieve bat and submit to DPH Virology Lab in Hartford for testing (do not destroy the animal's head). Always wear gloves when handling animal. 2. Contact local Health Dept. with information.
Injured/Orphaned Wildlife or Nuisance Animal in or around home or Animal Behavior Questions	<p><u>DEP Web Site Directories:</u> http://www.ct.gov/dep/ Once there select <u>Natural Resources</u>, then select <u>Wildlife</u>, select <u>Nuisance/Distressed Wildlife</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refer to DEP, Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011, Wildlife Rehabilitator or Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (directories on-line)

REQUEST FOR RABIES EXAMINATION

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, LABORATORY DIVISION
 10 CLINTON STREET, P.O. BOX 1689, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06144
 (860) 509-8553

TEST NUMBER
203V

Accession Label

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name and Address of Submitter (Physician or Veterinarian to receive report) JOHNNIE LEE, MD, MPH STAMFORD HEALTH DEPARTMENT LABORATORY 888 WASHINGTON BLVD STAMFORD, CT 06901	Phone Number (Results will be phoned to this number) (203) 977-4378
NOTE: The person or agency receiving this report is responsible for notifying animal owner, exposed person, and other involved parties of the results of this examination.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUBMITTER			
Animal species, breed, description of animal being tested	Date of collection		
Name and Address of Owner	Did animal die or was it killed? <input type="checkbox"/> Died <input type="checkbox"/> Killed If killed, How? When? Who killed the animal?		
Date of symptoms	Clinical diagnosis	Town where animal was found	Did animal run wild?
		STAMFORD	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

EXPOSURE INFORMATION	
HUMAN EXPOSURES Was there a human exposure? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Name and Address: Type of Exposure: (bite, scratch, contact, etc.) Describe incident:	ANIMAL / PET EXPOSURES Was there a pet exposure? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Pet Owner Name and Address: Type of Pet: (dog, cat, horse, etc.) Type of Exposure: (bite, scratch, contact, etc.) Describe incident:

TO BE COMPLETED BY LABORATORY STAFF		
Date received	Condition on arrival <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	Explain

REPORT PHONED TO					
NAME	DATE AND HOUR	BY	NAME	DATE AND HOUR	BY

FINAL REPORT
 NEGATIVE
 POSITIVE
 Date: _____



REQUEST FOR RABIES EXAMINATION

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
10 CLINTON STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(860) 509-8553

Accession Label

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
COMPLETE ONE FORM FOR EACH SPECIMEN

TEST NUMBER
203V

Name and Address of Submitter / Account Number (Physician or Veterinarian to receive report)	Submitter's Phone Number / Area Code (Results will be phoned to this number not to owners)
	NOTE: The person or agency receiving this report is responsible for notifying animal owner, exposed person, and other involved parties of the results of this examination.

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUBMITTER **REMINDER: SUBMIT HEADS OF DOGS ONLY**

Animal species, breed, description of animal being tested	Date of collection
Name and Address of Owner	Did animal die or was it killed? <input type="checkbox"/> Died <input type="checkbox"/> Killed If killed, How? When? Who killed animal?

Date of symptoms	Clinical diagnosis	Town where animal was found	Did animal run wild? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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EXPOSURE INFORMATION

HUMAN EXPOSURES Was there a human exposure? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Name and Address: Type of Exposure: (bite, scratch, contact, etc.) Describe incident:	ANIMAL / PET EXPOSURES Was there a pet exposure? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Pet Owner Name and Address: Type of Pet: (dog, cat, horse, etc.) Type of Exposure: (bite, scratch, contact, etc.) Describe incident:
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TO BE COMPLETED BY LABORATORY STAFF

Date received	Condition on arrival <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	Explain
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REPORT PHONED TO

NAME	DATE AND HOUR	BY	NAME	DATE AND HOUR	BY

FINAL REPORT NEGATIVE POSITIVE Date: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING SPECIMENS FOR RABIES EXAMINATION

TYPE OF ANIMALS ACCEPTED FOR RABIES EXAMINATION

Submit only animals involved in **significant** exposure of humans or domestic animals (bite, scratch, mucus membrane contamination by blood or saliva, etc.). Animals not involved in human or domestic animal exposure are not to be submitted to the DPH Laboratory.

Wild animals must be killed and submitted immediately for examination. Domestic animals may be quarantined until signs and symptoms of rabies are evident or until judged free of rabies. Contact the Department of Agriculture, Canine Control program for questions concerning quarantine of domestic animals, (860) 713-2506.

Rodents (mice, rats, squirrels, chipmunks, hamsters) and rabbits are rarely found to be rabid, and rabies in these animals has not been detected in Connecticut. Contact the Epidemiology Program at (860) 509-7994 to discuss the possibility of submitting animals uncommon to rabies infection.

Do not submit live animals. Small animals (e.g. bats, kittens, mice) may be submitted as whole carcasses. **Submit only the heads of larger animals (e.g. dogs, large cats, farm animals).**

PACKAGING SPECIMENS

Double bag whole carcasses or heads in leak-proof plastic bags. Place bags with specimens on ice in a rigid leak proof container. Deliver specimens to the laboratory as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT: ONLY ONE SPECIMEN PER BAG; SECURE PAPERWORK TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE SPECIMEN CONTAINER.

LABORATORY HOURS

The Virology Laboratory is staffed Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. After working hours, deliver specimens to the large silver refrigerator under the East Wing of the DPH State Laboratory, 10 Clinton Street, Hartford.

REQUISITION FORM

A completed requisition form must accompany each individual specimen submitted for testing. Please print clearly and include as much of the requested information as possible. **The Submitter's phone number** must be included for notification of results. Place the completed requisition form in an envelope and secure it to the outside of each individual specimen package being submitted for testing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For questions concerning human exposure and prophylaxis, contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Epidemiology Program at (860) 509-7994.

For questions concerning livestock and domestic animal exposures, contact the State Veterinarian at (860) 713-2505.

General rabies information can be obtained by calling the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association at (860) 232-5000.

For questions concerning wildlife (unusual behavior, rabies, exposures to, etc.) contact the Department of Environmental Protection, Wildlife Law Enforcement Division at (860) 424-3011. For emergencies call (860) 424-3333.

Additional information may also be obtained from your local Animal Control Officer.

HUMAN RABIES PREVENTION

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5703.pdf>

RABIES STATISTICS

<http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3136&q=396744>