



Columbia County Department of Health

Nancy A. Winch, R.N., M.S.
Public Health Director

325 Columbia Street Hudson, • NY 12534 • (518) 828-3358 • Fax (518) 828-8472

February 5, 2010

For immediate Release:

Rabies Alert

2 recent incidents in Columbia County have warranted a reminder to residents regarding rabies awareness. The Columbia County Health Department reports a fox attacked a boy in Stockport resulting in the rabies post exposure vaccination, because the fox escaped. The second incident involved a lab confirmed rabid Raccoon that attacked a dog in Elizaville, resulting in post exposure vaccination for the owner and 6 month quarantine of the dog because the pet's rabies vaccination had lapsed.

In 2009 Post exposure contacts resulted in 24 individuals receiving the rabies vaccination series. The Columbia County Health Department sent 7 raccoons, and 1 gray fox for rabies testing in 2009, all coming back positive for rabies.

The Health Department would like to remind County residents to use precaution if an animal is behaving abnormally, is unusually aggressive or friendly. Stay clear and call an animal control professional. If you are bitten by a rabid-acting animal make every effort to locate the animal and have it captured for testing. If the animal cannot be captured you should seek medical attention immediately. Exposure short of an actual bite to high rabies risk animals, such as raccoon, bats, skunks and foxes also require immediate medical attention. Any potential exposure should be reported to the County Health Department. County residents can also limit their exposure by keeping their pets properly vaccinated.

The 2010 scheduled Rabies Vaccination Clinics for dogs, cats and ferrets has been completed. For more information on the clinics or rabies exposure you can visit the web site at www.columbiacountyny.com or call the Columbia County Health Department at 828-3358.

The 2010 Rabies Clinic schedule is as follows:

(Saturday) March 6th

Ancram Town Highway Garage, Maple Lane, Ancramdale

Cats and Ferrets 10:00 – 11:00

Dogs 11:00 – 12:00

Kilshannagh Vet Clinic - Dr. Tina Aiken

(Saturday) April 17th

Germantown Community Bldg., Palatine Park Road

Cats and Ferrets 10:00 – 11:00

Dogs 11:00 – 12:00

Dr. Elaine Tucker

(Saturday) May 8th

Gallatin Town Highway Garage, County Routes 8 & 11

Cats and Ferrets 10:00 – 11:00

Dogs 11:00 -12:00

Copake Vet Hospital

(Saturday) June 5th

Greenport Town Hall, Town Hall Drive, off of Healy Blvd.

Cats and Ferrets 2:00 – 3:00

Dogs 3:00 – 4:00

Dr. Topal

(Wednesday) June 16th

Ghent Town Highway Garage, Garage Place Road (by Dairy Queen)

Cats and Ferrets 4:00 – 5:00

Dogs 5:00 – 6:00

Dr. Patterson

(Wednesday) August 18th

New Lebanon Town Garage, Intersection of Rt.22 and Old Post Road

Cats and Ferrets 4:00-5:00

Dogs 5:00-6:00

Nassau Vet Clinic Dr. Lisa Dietrich

(Wednesday) October 6th

Claverack Town Park Church Street, Mellenville

Cats and Ferrets 4:00 – 5:00

Dogs 5:00 – 6:00

Dr. Topal

(Saturday) November 6th

Kinderhook Town Hall County Route 28, Niverville

Cats and Ferrets 2:00 – 3:00

Dogs 3:00 – 4:00

Copake Vet Clinic