



Columbia County Department of Health

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For Immediate Release County Health Department Announces Rabies Clinic

The County Health Department has scheduled rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats and ferrets. The first clinic is scheduled for March 5, 2011 at Ancram Town Highway garage, located on Maple lane in Ancramdale. Cats and Ferrets from 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Dogs from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Dr Alan Topal of Mountain View Animal Hospital will be attending. There is no charge to Columbia County residents to have their pet vaccinated. Breeders should obtain rabies immunization through veterinary services. Pet owners who bring animals to the clinic are responsible for the control of their pets. Cats and ferrets should be secured in a sturdy cat carrier and dogs should be on a leash. The County Health Department will have staff members at the clinic to assist pet owners as needed. NYS law requires all dogs and cats to have an up to date rabies vaccination.

Rabies continues to be a problem in NYS. In Columbia County for 2010 we had 6 raccoons; 1 woodchuck, 1 bat, 1 bovine, 1 skunk that tested positive for rabies. 33 patients received post exposure vaccine in 2010. 96 post-exposure vaccinations were administered at the Columbia County Health Department. 26 contacts required post exposure vaccine, these included: 7 Bat; 6 Raccoon; 2 skunk; 6 Cat; 1 Fox; 1 bovine and 3 other. 470 dogs, 277 cats were vaccinated at the 2010 clinics. No ferrets were given rabies vaccinations as we could not obtain the licensed vaccine due to a nationwide shortage.

Additional clinics for 2011 are scheduled as follows:

April 16 (Sat) Germantown Community Bldg. Palatine Park Road
Cats and Ferrets 10:00 – 11:00 Dogs 11:00 – 12:00 Dr. Elaine Tucker

May 7(Sat) Gallatin Town Highway Garage County Routes 8 & 11
Cats and Ferrets 10:00 – 11:00 Dogs 11:00 -12:00 Copake Vet Hospital

June 4 (Sat) Greenport Town Hall Town Hall Drive, off of Healy Blvd.
Cats and Ferrets 2:00 – 3:00 Dogs 3:00 – 4:00 Dr. Topal

June 15 (Wed) Ghent Town Highway Garage Garage Place Road (by Dairy Queen)
Cats and Ferrets 4:00 – 5:00 Dogs 5:00 – 6:00 Dr. Patterson Sheep Meadow

August 16 (Tues) New Lebanon Town Garage Intersection of Rt.22 and Old Post Road
Cats and Ferrets 4:00-5:00 Dogs 5:00-6:00 Dr. Lisa Dietrich Nassau Vet Clinic

October 5 (Wed) Claverack Town Park Church Street, Mellenville
Cats and Ferrets 4:00 – 5:00 Dogs 5:00 – 6:00 Dr. Topal

November 5 (Sat) Kinderhook Town Hall County Route 28, Niverville
Cats and Ferrets 2:00 – 3:00 Dogs 3:00 – 4:00 Copake Vet Clinic

Keep your pet's rabies vaccination current. It could save their life as well as yours!