

Preventing Rabies

What is rabies and where does it come from?

"Rabies" is a disease that causes a serious illness in people and animals. It can come from raccoons, skunks, bats, foxes and coyotes. When these animals are sick with rabies, they can spread the disease to people, cats, dogs, ferrets and other types of furry animals. Rabies can sometimes cause death.

How do people and pets get rabies?

An animal that has rabies (a rabid animal) can spread the disease when it bites or scratches a person or a pet. People and pets can also get rabies when the saliva of a rabid animal gets into the eyes, the nose, the mouth or an open wound.

What does a rabid animal look like?

An animal that has rabies might look sick, act angry or appear strange. However, a rabid animal can also sometimes look healthy.

What can we do to prevent rabies?

To protect you and your family from this serious disease, it is very important to practice the following rules:

1. Take your pets to a veterinarian regularly. Make sure that your cats, dogs and ferrets receive their rabies shots.
2. Never attempt to touch or feed a wild animal.
3. If you find an animal that looks lost, sick or hurt, tell a parent. Do not touch the animal. Call your local animal control office.
4. Avoid approaching other people's pets if they do not know you. They may become frightened or angry.
5. If you are bitten or scratched by an animal, **tell a parent immediately**. Call your doctor and your local health department. You may need to receive rabies shots and the health department will need to follow-up on the health of the animal.



Rabies Prevention Program
"Avoid, Vaccinate & Educate"

www.ccbh.net
5550 Venture Drive Parma Ohio 44130
216-201-2001



