



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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Contact: Ryan Scarpino
Public Health Information Officer
412-578-8312 (office)
412-339-7995 (cell)
Ryan.Scarpino@AlleghenyCounty.us

Rabies Confirmed in Raccoon Killed by Dogs in Green Tree *Health Department Warns Residents in Area to Take Precautions*

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) has confirmed that a dead raccoon brought to one of its facilities last weekend has tested positive for rabies. The raccoon was killed by two dogs near the 1200 block of Glencoe Avenue in Green Tree. There was no exposure to humans, and the two dogs were up-to-date on their rabies vaccinations.

“All residents should avoid any kind of contact with wild or stray animals, especially those in the area of Green Tree where the rabid raccoon was located,” said ACHD Director Dr. Karen Hacker. “If any animal appears to be acting strange or becomes threatening, residents should notify their local animal control service, the police or the Pennsylvania Game Commission immediately.”

Rabies is a virus transmitted by an animal bite or scratch, and exposures due to a bite or scratch are almost always fatal when left untreated. Any individual who is bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed to saliva from a stray or any other animal, should immediately cleanse the contact area with soap and water, seek emergency medical treatment and call the Allegheny County Health Department, 412-687-ACHD (412.687.2243), to report the incident.

All county residents should always avoid stray animals and wildlife, even if they appear healthy, to avoid exposure to rabies. Residents should also have their pets vaccinated, and watch for unusual behavior.

This is the first rabid animal reported in Allegheny County in 2018.

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Karen Hacker, MD, MPH, Director
Allegheny County Health Department – Public Information Office
542 Fourth Avenue | Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-687-ACHD (2243) | Fax: 412-578-8325 | www.achd.net

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