



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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Health Department Issues Rabies Precautions for Scott, Carnegie Residents

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) is informing residents in Carnegie and Scott of a raccoon that tested positive for rabies. The raccoon was found in the 2000 block of Greentree Road. Its physical location is Scott Township, but it is very near the border of Carnegie Borough.

“We strongly urge all residents to stay away from wild or stray animals, but especially Scott and Carnegie residents in the area where the rabid raccoon was found,” said Health Department Director, Dr. Karen Hacker. “Residents should notify their local animal control service, the police or the Pennsylvania Game Commission, if any animal appears to be acting strange or becomes threatening.”

Rabies is a virus transmitted by an animal bite or scratch. It is almost always fatal when exposures are left untreated. The rabies vaccine is highly effective when given promptly after an exposure, but is still a major expense and inconvenience that can be avoided.

All county residents are reminded to avoid contact with wild animals. Residents should have their pets vaccinated, and watch for unusual behavior. 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 (2243), to report the incident.

So far this year, a total of 12 rabid animals have been reported in Allegheny County: five (5) bats, five (5) raccoons, one (1) cat and one (1) skunk.

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