



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

ALWAYS INSPIRING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 24, 2018

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

Second Raccoon Found in Mount Lebanon Tests Positive for Rabies

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) has confirmed that a raccoon brought to one of its facilities has tested positive for rabies. The raccoon was discovered near the intersection of Shadowlawn Avenue and Racine Avenue. Last week, the Health Department reported that another rabid raccoon was discovered in the same area.

It's critical that county residents always avoid stray and wild animals, even if they appear healthy, to avoid exposure to rabies. Residents should immediately notify their local animal control service, the police or the Pennsylvania Game Commission if any animal appears to be acting strange or becomes threatening. Residents should also make sure that their pets are up-to-date with vaccinations.

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 (412-687-2243) to report the incident.

This is the 21st rabid animal reported in Allegheny County in 2018: 10 raccoons, seven (7) bats, two (2) cats, one (1) groundhog and one (1) fox.

###

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.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment

Follow us: [allegheny alerts](#) | [facebook](#) | [instagram](#) | [linkedin](#) | [twitter](#) | [youtube](#)