



LEE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH



NEWS RELEASE

Rabies Exposures
LCG Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT REPORTS RABIES EXPOSURES

LEE COUNTY, NC – June 1, 2023 – Since April 24th, 2023 there have been three rabies exposures to residents in Lee County.

Two of the exposures involved feral cat attacks and the other involved a fox attack.

If you are a pet owner, North Carolina law requires that all dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies by four (4) months of age and continuously be updated. If your pet (vaccinated or unvaccinated) comes in contact with a wild animal, seek care from a veterinarian immediately.

Rabies is 99.9% fatal in humans. Never touch a dead wild animal with your bare hands. Humans who have been exposed to rabies through direct contact should immediately begin treatment with the rabies vaccine postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) to prevent contracting the virus.

If you see stray dogs, cats, or wildlife in your neighborhood, please call the Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Unit at 919-775-5531. If you have questions regarding your own exposure to any animal, please contact your healthcare provider to discuss your situation.

The Lee County Health Department will host a rabies clinic on June 29th, 2023 at 1450 N. Horner Blvd in Sanford from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Animals must be at least four (4) months of age to be vaccinated against rabies. The cost is \$10 per animal and all dogs must be on a leash and all cats in a carrier.

For media inquiries, please contact Hailey Hall, Communications Specialist/Clerk to the Board of Commissioners at (919) 718-4605 or hhall@leecountync.gov.

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