

How to catch a bat:

1. Wear thick gloves.
2. Use a sturdy container such as a coffee can to trap the bat against a wall.
3. Slide a piece of cardboard between the container and the wall to secure the bat in the container.
4. Pull the can away from the wall with the bat trapped inside, while keeping the cardboard in place over the opening.
5. Tape the cardboard securely to the container.
6. Contact your local health department for further instruction.

Contact your local health department with any questions or concerns regarding all animal bites and possible exposures.



Clinic information

We have 12 clinics scheduled for the current year at a variety of locations.

To Pre-Register For A Upcoming Rabies Clinic Visit:

Herkimercounty.org - Rabies Clinics

- Walk-ins are always welcome at any of our locations.
- If you do not have internet access, call our office and we will schedule an appointment over the phone.
- We will mail you a schedule at your request.



Contact Information

301 N. Washington St.
Herkimer N.Y. 13350
(315) 867-1176 24/7 services
(315) 867-1612 fax

Rabies

What You Need To Know

What is Rabies?

Rabies is a fatal virus that affects the central nervous system. Rabies is most commonly transmitted through the bite of an infected animal's saliva.

What animals can have rabies?

Only mammals can be infected with the rabies virus including humans, domestic animals and livestock. In the northeast, rabies is most commonly found in raccoons, foxes, skunks, and bats.

How can I tell if an animal has rabies?

The only true way of confirming rabies in an animal is through testing, but some abnormal behaviors to look for include:

- Extreme aggression-wanting to attack
- Docile-very friendly, or withdrawn
- Paralyzed, unable to walk
- Frothing at the mouth, due to the inability to swallow.

What should I do?

- Avoid contact with all wild animals and strays.
- Vaccinate your pets "*it's the Law*" and by protecting your pet you're protecting your family.

Report all animal bites/exposure to your local Public Health Department.

What should I do if I am bitten?

...by a wild animal

- Immediately wash the affected area with soap and running water.
- If possible capture the animal so testing can be done to determine if post exposure treatment is needed.
- Take care to prevent further injury to yourself or damage to the animal's head.
- Seek medical attention immediately.

Always call your local Public Health Department

...by a domesticated animal

- Immediately wash the area with soap and running water.
- Obtain the owner's name, address, and phone number.
- Seek medical attention.

Always call your local Public Health Department

What does Public Health Do?

We manage the risk of rabies in our community by providing:

- Animal Vaccination Clinics
- Management to animals exposed to rabies
- Management of domestic animals that have potentially exposed humans (A 10 Day Confinement in the owner's home)
- Authorization for Post Exposure Treatment



Bats

If a bat is found in your home, and there is **any chance contact occurred** with a human or pet **do not release the bat!** Contact your local Public Health Department for instruction. (Please follow the containment information in this brochure.)

Testing of the bat is necessary if:

- A person had physical contact with a bat a bite may not be noticeable due to the bat's small sharp teeth.
- If a bat is found in a room with a sleeping person, small child or an impaired adult.

Post exposure treatment may be necessary if:

- The bat escapes or is let go and is not available for testing.
- The bat is not testable due to injury sustained during capture.