



What is Rabies?

Rabies is a deadly viral disease that can be prevented but not cured. The virus attacks the nerves and brain tissue of warm-blooded animals, including people.

How do people and animals get rabies?

The rabies virus is concentrated in the saliva of infected animals. It is spread when the saliva enters a cut or wound through a bite or scratch.



What can I do to prevent rabies?

Do not let your pet roam free and feed them indoors. Stay away from dogs and cats that are acting strangely. Do not pet animals that are unfamiliar to you. Stay away from wild animals including raccoons, skunks, foxes and bats. Store all garbage in proper containers with secure lids to discourage wild animals.

What should I do if I am bitten or scratched?

1. Immediately wash the bite or scratched area thoroughly with soap and water.
2. Call your family doctor or go to the nearest hospital emergency or urgent care facility.

It is the law!

All dogs and cats over the age of 3 months must be vaccinated by a vet as required by the Rabies Immunization Regulation (Reg. 567 as amended to O. Reg 360/01 under the Health Protection Promotion Act).



Region of Waterloo
PUBLIC HEALTH

Pet owners with animals that are not immunized are subject to monetary fines.

For more information please call Region of Waterloo Public Health at (519) 883-2008 or visit our website at www.region.waterloo.on.ca/ph

