

RABIES WARNING

Recently, there has been wildlife in your neighborhood with rabies. Other free-roaming animals may also have been exposed and may possibly develop rabies over the next several days to months.

Rabies is a deadly disease for animals and people!

Please be aware of some of the clinical signs of Rabies Virus. Rabies has two major forms:

- *"Furious"*: symptoms may include: abnormal aggression, loss of fear, daytime activity by nocturnal species, attraction to noise and human activity, difficulty swallowing, drooling, restlessness, biting at anything and everything (including inanimate objects).
- *"Dumb"*: symptoms may include: lack of fear, appearing "tame", drooling, decreased activity, incoordination (trouble walking, look "drunk" or hurt), paralysis, coma, or sudden death.
- Not all rabid animals show all these symptoms. Symptoms of rabies are not always obvious. Rabies can appear in ANY mammal but in PA, is most commonly seen in raccoons, cats, foxes and bats.
- ANY bite from an animal should be reported to your doctor.
- If you own pets, please make sure they are current on rabies vaccination.

Note: dogs and cats (as defined by PA regulations) over three months of age are required by Pennsylvania state law to be currently vaccinated for rabies.

Courthouse

If you see an animal acting this way, what should you do?

- **Do not touch it or go near it**
- If you have questions about human health issues related to rabies, please call your physician or the Berks County Health Department at 610-378-4377
- If you have questions about rabies and pet animals or livestock, please call the Department of Agriculture at 610-489-1003 x123
- If you have questions about rabies in wildlife you can contact the Pennsylvania Game Commission Southeast Regional office at 610-926-3136