



DAVIDSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Protecting, Caring, Serving Our County

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Date: September 28, 2023

For release: Immediately

Raccoon Confirmed Positive for Rabies in Davidson County

The Davidson County Health Department received lab results on September 27, 2023, confirming a positive rabies case in Davidson County. This is the sixth lab confirmed rabies exposure incident in Davidson County this year. The raccoon was tested after it bit an individual who picked it up. The bite victim did seek medical treatment immediately following the incident and is receiving postexposure prophylaxis.

This incident occurred in the Thomasville area, we encourage all residents to be vigilant in maintaining their own pets' rabies vaccines and avoiding contact with unknown animals.

The events that took place during this incident serve as a stark reminder that engaging with wild animals is extremely dangerous and possibly deadly. The rabies virus is 99.9% fatal in humans who do not seek immediate postexposure treatment. If you see wild or unknown animals do not attempt to engage, feed, or handle the animal, contact Animal Control for assistance. North Carolina state law requires that all animal bites, domestic or wild, be promptly reported to the local health department.

For media inquiries related to the press release contact: janna.walker@davidsoncountync.gov.

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