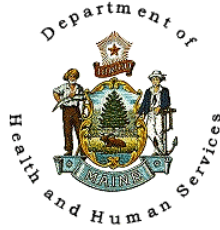


MAINE PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE



*Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC)
(Formerly Bureau of Health)
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Phone 1-800-821-5821 / Fax 207-287-7443*

2012PHUPD004

TO: Animal Care, Epidemiologists, HETL, Maine Municipal Offices Required

FROM: Dr. Sheila Pinette, Maine CDC Director
Dr. Stephen Sears, State Epidemiologist

SUBJECT: Maine Animal Rabies 3rd Quarter Update (July 1 - September 30, 2012)

DATE: Monday, October 15, 2012

TIME: 2:00pm

PAGES: 3

PRIORITY: Low

Confidentiality Notice: This fax message is intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity identified above. It may contain information, which is privileged and/or confidential under both state and federal law. If you are not notified otherwise, any further dissemination, copying, or disclosure of the communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmittal in error, please immediately notify us at 287-8478 and return the original transmission to us by mail at Key Bank Plaza, 6th Floor-286 Water Street. Augusta, ME 04333, without making a copy. Your cooperation in protecting confidential information is greatly appreciated.

Animal Rabies 3rd Quarterly Update July 1, 2012 – September 30, 2012

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) provides quarterly updates on animal rabies to veterinarians and other animal health professionals. This update may be used as an educational tool to inform pet owners and other members of the public about the risk of rabies in Maine and in their communities.

This update provides information on rabid animals for the third quarter of 2012 (July 1-Sept 30). Results are based on animals submitted to the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for rabies testing following contact with a human, domestic animal, or livestock (Table 1). USDA APHIS Wildlife Services performs supplemental surveillance of rabid animals with no human, domestic animal, or livestock exposure (Table 2). The count of positive animals statewide may not be representative of the true incidence of animal rabies in Maine because results are based only on those animals submitted for testing due to contact with a human or domestic animal. See HETL's rabies website for regularly updated rabies data at www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/rabies/rabies2012.htm.

Rabies is transmitted when the virus is introduced into bite wounds, open cuts in skin, or onto mucous membranes from saliva or other potentially infectious material, such as neural tissue. Prompt recognition and reporting of possible exposures to medical professionals, public health officials, and local animal control officers is critical to ensure appropriate management and assessment of the need for post-exposure prophylaxis. Please refer to the [Maine Rabies Management Guidelines 2012, 3rd Edition](#) when assessing a possible exposure. Maine CDC provides consultation and receives reports by phone at 1-800-821-5821 or fax at 1-800-293-7534. For more information, see the Maine CDC rabies website at www.mainepublichealth.gov/rabies.

Table 1. Animals positive for rabies virus by county, town and species in Maine – HETL, 2012

County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Jul 1–Sept 30)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1–Sept 30)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other		
Androscoggin						2	3
	Auburn	1					
	Turner		1				
Aroostook						0	0
Cumberland						1	10
	Harrison		1				
Franklin						0	0
Hancock						0	0
Kennebec						4	13
	Albion				1 dog		
	Clinton		1				
	Readfield				1 fox		
	Winthrop				1 cat		
Knox						0	7
Lincoln						1	2
	Bristol		1				
Oxford						1	4
	Hiram			1			
Penobscot						2	7
	Alton			1			
	Corinna			1			
Piscataquis						0	2
Sagadahoc						3	5
	Bath				1 fox		
	Bowdoinham		1				
	Richmond				1 cat		
Somerset						0	2
Waldo						4	6
	Morrill		1	1			

Animal Rabies 3rd Quarterly Update July 1, 2012 – September 30, 2012

County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Jul 1–Sept 30)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1–Sept 30)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other		
	Prospect			1			
	Winterport			1			
Washington						0	
York						4	
	Eliot			1			
	N. Waterboro				1 fox		
	Saco	1					
	York	1					
Species Total		3	6	7	3 foxes 2 cats 1 dog		
Maine Total						22	
						72	

Table 2. Animals positive for rabies virus by species in Maine – USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, 2012

County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Jul 1–Sept 30)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1–Sept 30)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other (Species)		
Species Total		0	2	0	0		
Maine Total						2	

The following figures show animal rabies data for Maine.

Figure 1. Animal rabies by quarter and year in Maine, 2008-2012

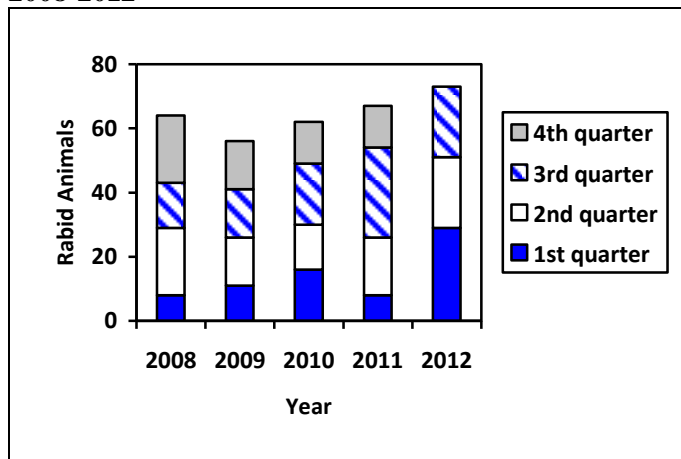


Figure 2. Animal rabies by county in Maine, January 1-September 30, 2012 (N=74)

