

Know the signs of rabies – VACCINATE YOUR PET – and how to prevent it

Rabies is a deadly infection that affects the central nervous system and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is almost always fatal if untreated. Rabies can be transmitted from animals to humans. Principal carriers of the virus include wild carnivores such as racoons, skunks, foxes, and coyotes as well as some bats. Some of the signs of a rabid animal include hyperactivity with bizarre or combative behavior, attacking objects, a hoarse howl and blank gaze, drooling, paralysis, or sudden death without associated symptoms.

If you encounter an animal that is behaving strangely, contact **Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement at 770.513.5700**. If you or a loved one have been bitten or scratched by a stray animal, seek medical care immediately and contact the **Gwinnett County Health Department at 770.339.4260**. If your pet has been bitten or scratched, please call your veterinarian and call **Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement at 770.513.5700**.

TIPS to keep you and your pets safe from rabies:

- Make sure your pets are current with their rabies vaccination.
- Stay away from wild, sick, hurt, or dead animals; do not pick up or move sick or hurt animals. **Call Animal Welfare at 770.513.5700.**
- Do not keep wild animals such as racoons, skunks, or foxes as pets; it is dangerous and also illegal.
- Teach your children to never tease, play with, or go near wild animals or strange dogs and cats.



GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com