



Columbia County Department of Health

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For Immediate Release

County Health Department Announces Rabies Clinic

The County Health Department has scheduled rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats and ferrets. The next clinic is scheduled for May 2, 2009 in Gallatin at the Gallatin Town Highway garage, Cats and Ferrets from 10:00 – 11:00 am, Dogs from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon. Copake Vet Hospital will be attending. There is no charge to Columbia County residents to have their pet vaccinated. Pet owners who bring animals to the clinic are responsible for the control of their pets. Cats and ferrets should be secured in a sturdy cat carrier and dogs should be on a leash. The County Health Department will have staff members at the clinic to assist pet owners as needed. NYS law requires all dogs and cats to have an up to date rabies vaccination.

Rabies continues to be a problem in NYS. In Columbia County for 2008 we had 13 raccoons; 1 skunk, 1 gray fox and 2 bats that tested positive for rabies. 50 patients received post exposure vaccine in 2008. 152 post-exposure vaccinations were administered at the Columbia County Health Department. 25 shots were administered elsewhere to above patients. 39 contacts required post exposure vaccine, these included: 18 Bat; 12 Raccoon; 3 Dog; 1 Cat; 3 Fox and 2 other. 194 dogs, 264 cats and 8 ferrets were vaccinated at the 2008 clinics.

Additional clinics are scheduled as follows:

Saturday, June 6, 2009 Greenport Town Hall Town Hall Drive, off of Healy Blvd.
Cats and Ferrets 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Dogs 3:00 – 4:00 pm. Dr. Topal attending.

Wednesday, June 17, 2009 Ghent Town Highway Garage Garage Place Road (by Dairy Queen)
Cats and Ferrets 4:00 – 5:00 pm, Dogs 5:00 – 6:00 pm. Dr. Patterson attending.

Wednesday, August 19, 2009 New Lebanon Town Garage Intersection of Rt.22 and Old Post Road
Cats and Ferrets 4:00-5:00 pm, Dogs 5:00-6:00 pm. Dr. Cummings attending.

Wednesday, October 7, 2009 Claverack Town Park Church Street, Mellenville
Cats and Ferrets 4:00 – 5:00 pm, Dogs 5:00 – 6:00 pm. Dr. Topal attending.

Saturday, November 7, 2009 Kinderhook Town Hall County Route 28, Niverville
Cats and Ferrets 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Dogs 3:00 – 4:00 pm. Dr. Cummings attending.

Keep your pet's rabies vaccination current. It could save their life as well as yours!