



# News Release

## Environmental Services

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 14, 2014

[wakegov.com/news](http://wakegov.com/news)

### **WAKE ISSUES RABIES NOTICE FOR APEX**

*Anyone Bitten or Scratched by Unknown Animals Should Call Animal Control*

Wake County would like to inform people who live in the vicinity of New Hill Olive Chapel Road and Olive Dairy Road in Apex that rabies was confirmed in a raccoon on Monday, April 14, 2014. Wake County Animal Control responded to the case and the raccoon was taken to the State Lab in Raleigh for testing. The raccoon came into contact with four dogs.

"We don't want to alarm residents in Apex, but they should be aware of these cases and of the potential for exposure to themselves, family members and their pets," said Sue Lynn Ledford, Community Health director for Wake County.

In this case all of the dogs were vaccinated for rabies and required a booster vaccine. State law requires potentially rabid pets to be destroyed unless owners agree to support a six-month quarantine.

"Rabies vaccination is critical to help to prevent the spread of disease, and rabies vaccination is required by law. This is a great opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of rabies vaccinations for their pets," said Wake Environmental Services Director Joseph Threadcraft.

Animal Control officers are concerned about possible exposure of unvaccinated animals, particularly pets, in the Apex area. Anyone who sees an animal acting in an unusual manner is urged to call Wake County Animal Control. Animal Control officials urge the following:

- Residents should not approach animals that they do not know.
- Residents should ensure their pets have a current rabies vaccination. If a pet is allowed outside, a booster vaccine is recommended. Outdoor pets should be kept inside until they receive booster vaccines.
- Do not feed stray or unknown animals, including cats and dogs.
- Do not leave trash or food outside, unless it is in a trash can with a tight-fitting lid.
- If a pet is fed outside, do not leave food out overnight.
- If a pet comes in contact with an animal that might be rabid, contact a veterinarian immediately.

To report animal complaints and stray animals:

- In Wake County (except Cary, Garner, Holly Springs and Raleigh), call 919-212-PETS (7387)
- In Cary, call 919-319-4517
- In Garner, call 919-772-8896
- In Holly Springs, call 919-557-9111
- In Raleigh, call 919-831-6311

The next rabies vaccination and microchip clinic is on Saturday, April 19, 2014, at Watson Flea Market, 1436 Rock Quarry Road, Raleigh. Rabies vaccines will be available for \$5 and microchips for \$10. Details can be found on the [Wake County Animal Center](#) website.

For more information, visit [wakegov.com/pets/health/rabies](http://wakegov.com/pets/health/rabies).

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