



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **WAKE ISSUES RABIES NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS IN NORTHERN WAKE COUNTY**

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

Wake County would like to inform people who live in the area closest to the intersection of Mt. Vernon Church and Leslie Drive that rabies was confirmed in a raccoon yesterday, Thursday, April 30, 2015. The animal was taken to the State Lab in Raleigh for testing. There were no known human or animal exposures to the raccoon.

"We don't want to alarm residents in who live near the Mt. Vernon Church and Leslie Drive area, 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. "Do not approach an animal that you don't know."

Animal Control officers are concerned about possible exposure of unvaccinated animals, particularly pets, in the Northern Wake County area. Anyone who sees an animal acting in an unusual manner is urged to call the appropriate animal control agency.

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

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

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