



NEWS RELEASE

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Date: May 12, 2016

RABID RACCOON FOUND IN FUQUAY-VARINA

The body of a raccoon found at the intersection of Highway 401 and Air Park Road in Fuquay-Varina tested positive for rabies on May 11. There was no human contact with this raccoon.

The animal was killed on May 10 by two dogs, which were not up to date on rabies vaccinations. They are now in the custody of Wake County Animal Control.

As the summer months approach, the probability of encountering animals that can transmit rabies increases. Wake County encourages pet owners to protect their pets by making sure their rabies vaccinations are up to date.

Rabies is most commonly transmitted from animal to animal, particularly through bites or scratches from wild raccoons, skunks or bats. According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the rabies virus infects the central nervous system, ultimately causing disease in the brain and death. The good news is that, with prompt medical care, rabies is 100 percent preventable.

The Wake County Animal Center holds rabies clinics throughout the county, providing vaccines for only \$5. Additional information, including a complete list of upcoming clinics, can be found on the [Animal Center website](#).

Preventing rabies and keeping pets safe goes beyond vaccination. While enjoying time outdoors, owners should make sure their pets are safe from wild animals. Keep pets within a fenced-in area, or make sure that they are on a leash when outdoors in an open area such as a park or hiking trail.

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; and
- In Raleigh, call 919-831-6311.

For more information, visit wakegov.com/pets/health/rabies.

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