



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Rabid Fox Captured Near Holly Springs

Test results released Aug. 1 show a fox captured near Holly Springs was rabid. [Wake County Animal Control](#) responded to a report of a rabid fox near the intersection of Holly Springs Road and Fairview Street on July 30. The fox had attacked a person and a dog. The victim is following appropriate rabies treatment protocols. The dog had no record of previous rabies vaccines and was surrendered to the [Wake County Animal Center](#).

Wake County advises residents to never handle wildlife or stray animals. Instead, they are encouraged to call their local [animal control agency](#) to appropriately handle the situation.

The chances of encountering animals that can transmit rabies increase as the temperatures rise. Wake County encourages pet owners to protect their pets by making sure their rabies vaccinations are up to date. If an animal has proof of an out-of-date or current rabies vaccine and is exposed to a rabid animal, they will receive a booster shot. If there is no record of previous rabies vaccines, then the animal must be quarantined for four months per state law or be euthanized.

The [Wake County Animal Center](#) holds [rabies clinics](#) throughout the county, providing vaccines for only \$5. Owners unsure of their pet's vaccination status should check with their veterinarian.

Here are additional steps people can take to prevent the spread of rabies:

- When pets are outside, they should be in a fenced-in area or on a leash. Do not leave food outside for pets, because it will also attract wildlife.
- If you see a wild or unfamiliar animal, do not approach it, even if it seems to be behaving normally. Animals showing signs of rabies should be reported to local animal control as soon as possible.
- Infected bats can also spread rabies. If you find a bat in a living space of your home, try to enclose it in a small room or closed-off area, and call animal control. Do not let the bat out of your house.
- If a wild animal showing signs of rabies bites your pet and draws blood or gets in a fight with your pet, the pet is at risk for exposure to rabies. Call animal control for assistance right away. Pets that have had a rabies vaccine need to get a booster shot within 72 hours of the bite.
- If you or someone you know has been bitten by a potentially rabid animal, wash the wound immediately with soap and water and contact your doctor.

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 919-772-8810;
- In Holly Springs, call 919-557-9111; and
- In Raleigh, call 919-831-6311.

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

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