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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Health Department Vaccinates over 200 Animals Against Rabies

FREDERICK, MD -- The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD), Environmental Health Office held a rabies clinic on June 29 at the Thurmont Community Park where 200 dogs and cats received their rabies vaccination. Over two clinics so far this year, over 300 pets have been vaccinated against rabies.

"Thanks to everyone who braved the heat and brought their dogs and cats out for their vaccination," said Alicia Evangelista, FCHD's Program Manager of community services and development review. "We would also like to thank Dr. Shook with the Linganore Vet Clinic and the two Vet techs that gave their time and expertise in vaccinating all the pets."

Rabies has a nearly 100% mortality rate once an animal or person starts having symptoms. Deaths from rabies can be prevented in humans by avoiding unvaccinated animals or, if exposed, by getting treatment early. In pets, rabies can be prevented by getting pets vaccinated and by preventing their exposure to unknown or unvaccinated animals. Since it is not always possible to limit your pet's interactions with unvaccinated wild or stray animals, it is crucial to get pets vaccinated against this deadly disease.

In 2024 there were a total of 34 confirmed rabid animals in Frederick County including raccoons, skunks, cats, foxes, groundhogs and a cow. So far in 2025, there have been 11 lab confirmed rabid animals. Rabies information, including maps from 2024 can be viewed [here](#). For rabies numbers around the state of Maryland, visit the Maryland Department of Health [website](#).

The health department does not have any additional clinics scheduled for 2025, however residents are encouraged to check the health department website and social media for updates on all future clinics. For additional general rabies information, please contact 301-600-1717 or visit Health.FrederickCountyMD.gov/Rabies.

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