



**Public Health**  
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Frederick County Health Department

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**OCTOBER 5, 2021**

## **FOX TESTS POSITIVE FOR RABIES IN FREDERICK CITY, MARYLAND**

**FREDERICK, MD** – On October 5, 2021, the Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) received a report from the Maryland Department of Health Rabies Laboratory that a fox found near Baughman's Lane and Shookstown Road has tested positive for rabies. The fox was collected on **Saturday, October 2, 2021**, after it had an encounter with a dog.

The FCHD recommends that any people who may have had contact with this fox between **September 15, 2021, and October 2, 2021**, consult their health care provider and notify the FCHD's Community Health Services Office at 301-600-3342. If any pets had contact with the fox, consult with your veterinarian and notify the FCHD's Environmental Health Office at 301-600-1717.

Rabies is a viral disease that mainly infects mammals and is spread through the saliva of the infected animal, usually by a bite. Symptoms of rabies in animals may include fear of water, excessive salivation, failure to eat or drink, limping, unusually friendly or aggressive behavior, and/or other atypical behaviors such as nocturnal animals emerging during the daytime. The disease is nearly always fatal to humans if infected and no prompt post exposure treatment is had.

Barry Glotfelty, Director for FCHD's Environmental Health Services, advises, "Mammals can be infected with the rabies virus so do not touch or play with unknown animals, and make sure your pets are vaccinated." If you or your pets have contact with a stray or wild animal, report it to Animal Control at 301-600-1544.

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