



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Frederick County Health Department

News Release

CONTACT: Cherish McMillan
Public Information Officer
Office of Planning, Assessment & Communication
301-600-3112
TTY: 800-735-2258
cmcmillan@FrederickCountyMD.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

JULY 14, 2022

CAT TESTS POSITIVE FOR RABIES IN FREDERICK COUNTY

FREDERICK, MD – On July 14, 2022, the Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) received a report that a pet cat from Warner Road, between Renner Road and Matthews Road, in Frederick County, Maryland, tested positive for the rabies virus. The cat was brought to Animal Control on Tuesday, July 12, 2022. The cat is described as an 8-month-old, black, domestic shorthair.

The FCHD recommends that any people who may have had contact with this cat between **June 28, 2022, and July 12, 2022**, 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 cat, 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, such as cats, 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.

###

Barbara A. Brookmyer, M.D., M.P.H. ▪ Health Officer

350 Montevue Lane ▪ Frederick, MD 21702

Phone: 301-600-1029 ▪ Fax: 301-600-3111 ▪ MD TTY: 1-800-735-2258

