



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

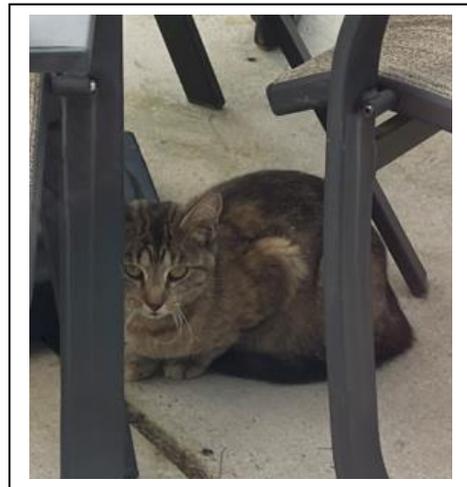
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

JULY 22, 2022

Cat Tests Positive for Rabies In Frederick County

FREDERICK, MD – On July 22, 2022, the Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) received a report that a cat from near the intersection of Stottlemyer Road and Old Catoctin Road near Route 77, in Frederick County, Maryland, has tested positive for the rabies virus. The cat was brought to the Maryland Department of Agriculture Lab on Friday, July 22, 2022, due to its aggressive behavior. The rabies-positive cat is shown here in the picture and is described as a young adult, gray tabby.



The FCHD recommends that any people who may have had contact with this cat between **July 6, 2022, and July 21, 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.

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



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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.

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