

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

As part of our Rabies Prevention Program, The Cuyahoga County Board of Health investigates all reported animal bites and potential rabies exposures. We were notified you were bitten by a _____ on _____. Every effort should be made to locate this animal so that it can be properly quarantined or tested for rabies.

Please contact us upon receiving this letter to provide any additional information you may have regarding the whereabouts of the animal. If the animal is a stray, it may be possible for your local animal control officer to capture it and submit it to our office for rabies testing. If the animal belongs to someone, then our office can contact the owner to verify the health of the animal and its rabies vaccination record. If the animal belongs to you, then you will simply be required to quarantine the animal for 10 days and then provide proof of a rabies vaccination.

Rabies is an infectious disease that is fatal once symptoms begin. The risk for rabies can be controlled by minimizing animal bites and exposures and by keeping pets vaccinated against the virus. The Board of Health recommends that you seek the necessary medical treatment to help prevent potential infection. You should also consult with your physician to discuss the risks associated with your potential rabies exposure and whether post-exposure prophylaxis should be administered.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Stacey Short, RS, MPH
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