



MEDIA RELEASE

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Rabid Fox Confirmed in Onslow County

(Onslow County) Onslow County Animal Services received confirmation from the North Carolina State Laboratory that a fox, which had exposure to humans, has tested positive for rabies.

On May 30, the fox attacked one child and is suspected of attacking another child in separate incidents in the Southwest area in the vicinity of the Comfort Country Homes community. Animal Services was able to capture the fox and sent it to the state lab for testing over the weekend.

According to Angela Lee, the Health Director of the Onslow County Health Department, "Both children went to Onslow Memorial Hospital to start the series of rabies shots. Both started treatment quickly after exposure, so they are expected to remain free of the disease."

The Health Department and Animal Services urge residents to have their pets vaccinated for rabies and to keep children away from stray or wild animals. "Vaccinating pets and staying away from wild animals are the best ways to prevent being exposed to rabies," added Lee.

Onslow County Animal Services offers a Rabies Clinic for pets every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from noon to 5:00 p.m. at 244 Georgetown Road in Jacksonville. No appointment is necessary, and the cost of the vaccine is \$10 per pet.

For information about vaccinating your pets for rabies, please contact Onslow County Animal Services at (910) 455-0182 or your veterinarian.

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