





The fall Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held on Saturday, September 22 in the Tractor Supply parking lot, from 2 to 5 p.m. All dogs, cats and ferrets four months of age must have a current rabies vaccination that is administered by a licensed veterinarian.

II Day Friday - All You Can Eat

Rabies is a vaccine preventable disease in humans, dogs, cats and ferrets as well as some domestic livestock. All mammals are susceptible to rabies and it is nearly always fatal. Rabies can be prevented in humans with timely and appropriate treatment. The disease most often occurs in wild animals especially skunks, raccoons, bats and foxes. Raccoon rabies is present in the raccoon population in virtually every North Carolina county.

Domestic animals (including cats, dogs, ferrets and livestock such as horses, cattle and sheep) are susceptible to rabies but there are few cases because of the use of USDA-licensed rabies vaccines. North Carolina general statute 130A-185 requires owners of dogs, cats and ferrets to have their pets currently vaccinated against rabies, beginning at four months of age. This vaccine must be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

The rabies virus infects the central nervous system, ultimately causing disease in the brain and death. You can only get rabies by coming in contact with the saliva or brain/nervous system tissue of an infected animal - for example, if you are bitten by a rabid animal, handle a pet that has been attacked by a rabid animal such as a fox, or are cleaning a dead animal you have killed while hunting.

The number of human deaths attributed to rabies in the United States now averages just one or two each year. Most of those cases have been traced to bats. Bat bites can be difficult to detect and may not cause a person to wake from a sound sleep. To protect yourself from bat bites, do not sleep in a cabin, tent, shelter or lodging facility if bats have access to the living space. If you awaken to find a bat in your room, tent, or cabin, it should be safely captured (do not release the bat!) and tested for rabies as quickly as possible, and you should seek medical advice immediately. This is also true if a bat is found in a room with an infant, young child, or a person with cognitive impairment, even if they are awake, as they may have been bitten but unable to say so. Once you have secured the bat inside a room, call your local animal control for help. Never handle a bat or any dead animal with your bare hands.

People who are bitten by a mammal or otherwise possibly exposed to rabies should first wash any wounds thoroughly with soap and water for 15 minutes and then seek immediate medical attention to prevent the development of fatal disease. A doctor will determine what treatment is needed, such as post-exposure vaccination. Bites should be reported to the local health department animal control officer immediately to ensure that the biting animal is captured and tested (wild or ill animal) or confined (healthy domestic animal).

An exposure to rables is an urgent situation: once symptoms appear, it is usually too late to start treatment, and the disease is nearly always fatal.

Projects Still Needed for United Way Day of Caring

On Saturday, September 29 volunteers will be doing yard work for the elderly and those in need during the 8th annual Day of Caring event. There is still time to sign-up to be a project or have a team for the event.

"There are many homeowners in our community that are unable to do outside maintenance because illness or mobility issues. The Day of Caring volunteers are ready to help with those chores small task such as removing limbs and cutting grass can make a big difference for those who are unable to do the work themselves," Caroline Goins, United Way development officer said. Volunteer teams can help with half-day service projects such as washing windows, pruning shrubs, cutting grass and other yard work. Nonprofit agencies may sign-up to be a project site as well. Last year, 36 senior citizens and 3 nonprofit organizations were helped during Day of Caring and more projects are expected to be completed this year. Day of Caring is a community-wide service project that serves as a kickoff event for the annual Anson County United Way campaign. All of the money raised here stays in the county to help fund programs that create lasting change in the community. Altogether, last year's campaign raised 75,000 and a total of 77,000 dollars was allocated to 10 local partner agencies. Day of Caring volunteers will gather for the 7:30 a.m. kickoff celebration and breakfast at the Wadesboro Town Square. Teams from a variety of businesses, churches and civic organizations will scatter across the county to predetermined sites. In conjunction with United Way's Day of Caring nonperishable goods are being collected for families for the Anson Crisis Ministry to distribute. Donations can be dropped off at the Grace Senior Center, located on Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, the week prior to There will also the event. be collection barrels on the Square at the kickoff on September 29. The Day of Caring committee invites anyone interested in more information on become a project site or volunteer to contact Kim Wilson at 704-694-4036 or Caroline Goins at 704-694-2600.







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