

Pomperaug District Department of Health

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For immediate release

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Three Rabid Raccoons Found in Southbury Neighborhood

In the past few months, three confirmed rabid raccoons have been found in the vicinity of North Georges Hill and Peter Road in Southbury. Residents should be aware and take steps to protect themselves and their pets from rabies.

Dogs and cats must be vaccinated against rabies. It is state law. Contact between pets and wildlife is one of the most common ways that people are exposed to rabies. Be sure that pets are up to date on their rabies vaccine.

If your pet fights or comes in contact with a wild animal, wear gloves to handle your pet. The rabies virus may be on your pet's fur. Call the animal control officer to report any contact with wild animals. In Southbury, the Animal Control Officer can be reached at 203-262-0613.

Do not touch or approach wild animals or strange dogs and cats.

Do not attract raccoons to your yard. Feed pets inside. Do not feed birds, wildlife, or feral cats. Keep garbage secured.

If you see a wild animal that is acting strangely – staggering or being overly aggressive or friendly – call the routine number for the local police or the animal control officer. The Southbury Police can be reached at 203-264-5912.

For more information on rabies visit the Pomperaug Health District website at www.pomperaughealthdistrict.org.