

United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Wildlife Services

79 Leighton Road Suite 12 Augusta, Maine 04330 (207) 629-5181 (207) 629-5182 (fax) Subject: Rabies Surveillance in Maine

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services (WS) continues to conduct rabies surveillance in Maine. These efforts are conducted throughout northern Maine and along the U.S./Canadian border near New Brunswick and Quebec in areas where raccoon rabies is emerging or has not yet been documented. This surveillance effort is a critical part of our annual oral rabies vaccination (ORV) distribution that has occurred in areas of Presque Isle, Caribou, Ashland, and Fort Fairfield since 2009.

USDA WS requests the assistance of Maine game wardens, animal control officers, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife biologists, epidemiologists, veterinarians, and others to assist Maine WS in locating samples of animals in the northern part of the state that potentially could have rabies.

Our surveillance methods include collecting road kill and sick or suspiciously acting animals that have had no contact with humans or domestic animals. All wild animals involved in potential or actual rabies exposures with humans or domestic animals are a public health concern and should be immediately submitted to the Maine State Health and Laboratory for testing.

For those who are interested in cooperating with USDA Wildlife Services, please review the attached flow chart to determine what action to take when you find a sample. If it is determined that the sample or the suspicious animal meets the criteria, please call the USDA WS state office in Augusta, ME. After the message is received, WS will coordinate with field employees located throughout the state to retrieve the samples.

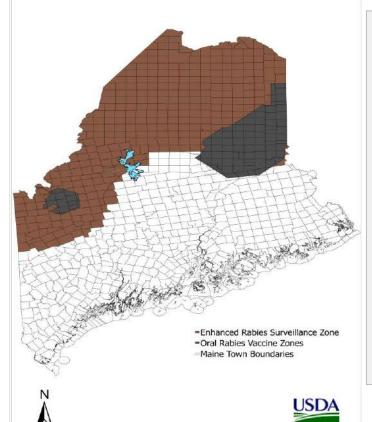
If You See Any Raccoons, Skunks, Bobcats, Coyotes & Foxes

Acting Strange or Roadkill USDA Wildlife Services Wants To Know!

If you see wild animals acting strange (aggression, loss of fear to humans, excessively salivating, circling, lethargy, paralyzed) or roadkill

Call (207) 629-5178

Enhanced Rabies Surveillance



Area highlighted includes the 2024 surveillance area.

You can become a critical part of this large scale, ongoing project. If you notice any Raccoons, Skunks, Bobcats, Coyotes, & Foxes in the highlighted surveillance area, please call (207) 629-5178 or 1-866-487-3297 with the location and species found.

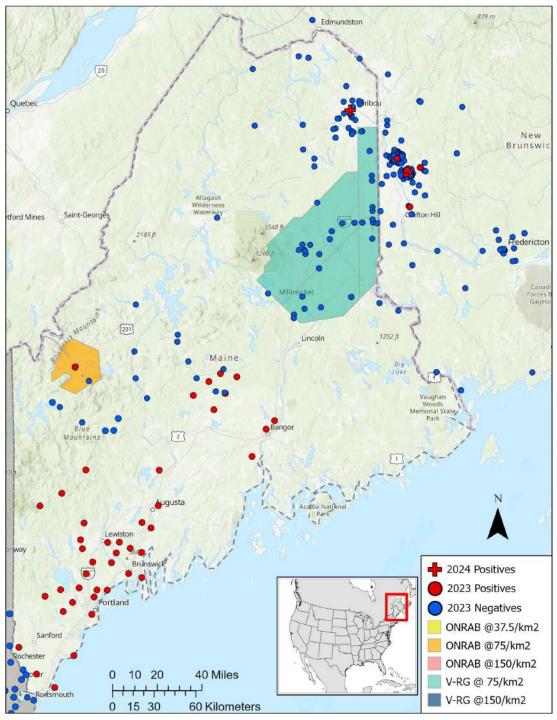
Samples will be collected by Wildlife Services staff and directly help monitor wildlife rabies in Maine.

ANYWHERE in the surveillance area. ANYTIME of year. Call Wildlife Services.

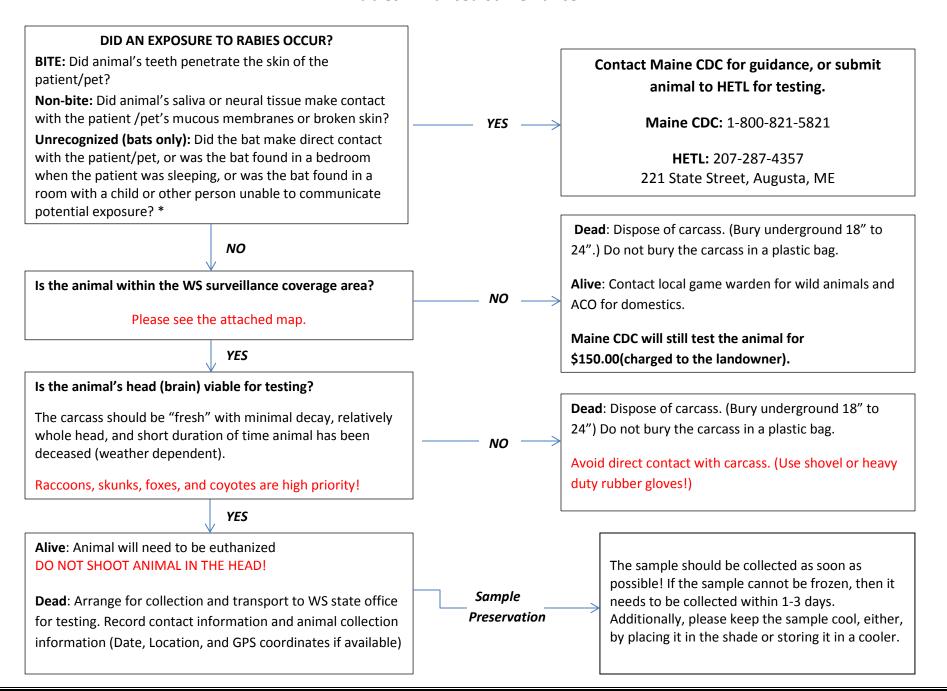
Do not touch wild animals, alive or dead. Contact your local authorities if you need immediate assistance.



Equal Opportunity Safeguarding American Agriculture
APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Program
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USDA Wildlife Services Algorithm for Rabies Enhanced Surveillance



^{*}Maine CDC: Website (http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/zoonotic/rabies/documents/maine-rabies-management-guide.pdf)