Help! There's a Bat in My House!

Guidance for Bat/Wild Animal Exposures





Overview of Information

- How to safely catch a bat
- What to do if bitten by an animal
- Rabies prevention
- What is rabies?
- How is rabies transmitted?
- References



If You Find a Bat in Your Home

DO NOT LET THE BAT GO!

Watch

"How to Safely Catch a Bat"

Call Oakland County Animal Control (OCAC) to pick up the bat after it has been safely caught as described in the above video. If you are unable to catch the bat yourself, call a critter control agency for assistance. OCAC cannot catch bats in a home.

(248) 858-1090 (24hr/7days)



If Bitten by an Animal

If you are bitten by a wild animal or seriously injured by a domestic animal

GO TO AN EMERGENCY ROOM OR URGENT CARE IMMEDIATELY

- Wound care will be given
- Tetanus vaccination status will be reviewed
- Need for rabies treatment will be evaluated



Rabies Prevention

- Keep pets (dogs, cats, ferrets) up-to-date on rabies vaccinations
- Stay away from wild or unfamiliar animals

 Report ill appearing wild animals to OCAC (248) 858-1090 (24hr/7days)



What is Rabies?

- A disease caused by the rabies virus in mammals
- Affects the brain and nervous system
- Symptoms include:
 - Agitation
 - Difficulty Swallowing
 - Hydrophobia (fear of water)
 - Confusion
 - Paralysis
 - Fatal without Treatment



How is Rabies Transmitted?

- Contact with the saliva (bite, scratch or lick) of an infected animal
- Wild animals with potential to carry rabies:
 - Bats (most frequently reported rabid animal in Oakland County)
 - Skunks
 - Raccoons
 - Foxes



References

Oakland County Fact Sheet

- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
 - www.michigan.gov/rabies
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) www.cdc.gov/rabies



If You Have Questions

Oakland County Animal Control (248) 858-1090

Oakland County Health Division Communicable Disease Unit

8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday 248-858-1286





HEALTH DIVISION

North • Oakland Health Center

1200 N. Telegraph Rd Pontiac, MI 48341 Phone: 248.858.1280

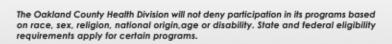
South Oakland Health Center

27725 Greenfield Rd Southfield, MI 48076

Phone: 248.424.7000

Nurse On Call Public Health Information 800.848.5533 NOC@OAKGOV.COM OAKGOV.COM/HEALTH @ PUBLICHEALTHOC







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