

RABIES ALERT

On Monday 12/18/2017, in the area of Trolley Crossing and Cooper Lane., A Raccoon was euthanized after coming into possible contact with horses and dogs, and was submitted for rabies testing. On 12/18/2017, the results came back as positive for rabies. The animals in question **ARE** up to date with their rabies vaccinations and will be examined by their Veterinarian and will be administered a booster vaccination. Stafford Animal Control would like to remind residents that any dog or cat over three months of age must be vaccinated for rabies as well as any livestock as recommended by a Veterinarian. Should a resident find wounds of unknown origin on their animal please contact your Veterinarian for a booster vaccination and medical treatment. Should a resident find a wild animal acting out of the ordinary **DO NOT APPROACH IT**. Please call **Animal Control @ 860-684-2382** and leave a message, then call **Stafford police @ 860-684-3777**, so that they may contact the Animal Control Officer or dispatch a Police Officer to assess the situation.

Following is clinical signs of rabies and is copied from the State of Connecticut Rabies Protocol Manual:

CLINICAL SIGNS OF RABIES

Clinical signs of rabies in animals include fever, loss of appetite, excessive Irritability, unusual vocalization, change in behavior, restlessness, jumping at noises, Trouble walking, excess salivation, tremors, convulsions, paralysis, stupors or Unprovoked aggression. Rabies usually begins subtly, with pet owners first noticing that Their animal goes off its food and just "doesn't seem right". The animal may then Become restless and irritable, have a "strange look in its eyes" and make funny sounding Cries or barks. As the disease progresses, nervous system signs become more obvious With tremors appearing, difficult walking and swallowing, and even convulsions and Paralysis developing. Affected animals may or may not try to bite or show other signs of Aggression.

If your pet begins to show any of these signs; notify the local Animal Control Officer and seek the care and advice of a veterinarian. Separate your animal from other Animals and humans immediately.

Please contact your local animal control officer or the State Veterinarian if you have any questions about this notice.