Rabies is caused by a virus that can infect any mammal, including humans. Birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish do not get rabies.

How does rabies spread?

In infected mammals, the virus is found in saliva and can be spread through three main ways:

- Bites that break the skin
- Getting infected saliva in an open cut, sore or other wound
- Getting infected saliva in the mouth, nose or eyes

Rabies can not be transmitted through contact with the blood, urine or feces of an infected animal.

The animals that most often transmit rabies in Ontario are bats, foxes, skunks and raccoons.

What if I’m exposed to rabies?

If you’re exposed to the saliva of a potentially rabid animal:

- Wash the bite or scratch with soap and warm water immediately (use hand sanitizer if there’s no soap or water nearby)
- Call your family doctor or go to the nearest hospital for treatment right away
- Report the bite or scratch to Six Nations Public Health at 519-445-2672

What are the symptoms of rabies?

In adults the signs of rabies will usually appear within 2-8 weeks of exposure.

Early symptoms of rabies may include:

- Numbness around the site of a bite
- Fever
- Headache
- Feeling sick

Later symptoms of rabies may include:

- Itchiness around the site of the bite (even after it’s healed)
- Muscle spasms
- Fear of air gusts (aerophobia)
- Fear of water (hydrophobia)
- Difficulty breathing

Can you treat rabies?

To treat a rabies infection, it is important to seek medical attention immediately following any animal bite or scratch.

If you’re exposed to rabies you will receive:

- A shot containing antibodies that help destroy the rabies virus which is given at the site of the wound
- Four shots of rabies vaccine in your upper arm, given over 14 days

Post-exposure treatment is covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

Source/for more info visit: www.ontario.ca/rabies or call Six Nations Public Health at 519-445-2672
To help with the prevention and/or spread of wildlife rabies, Six Nations has and will continue taking part in a province wide aerial baiting program.

Exposure to the bait is not harmful to people or pets, however in the unlikely event that you or your pet come into contact with the vaccine contained in the bait contacting a doctor or veterinarian as a precaution is recommended.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**SIX NATIONS PUBLIC HEALTH**
1769 Chiefswood Road, Ohsweken
P: 519-445-2672

**SIX NATIONS ANIMAL CONTROL**
1769 Chiefswood Road, Ohsweken
P: 519-445-2947 After Hours: 519-445-4818

**SIX NATIONS WILDLIFE OFFICE**
2676 Fourth Line, Ohsweken
P: 519-445-0330

www.sixnations.ca

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**Public Announcement**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has notified Six Nations Wildlife Program and Animal Control Services that two raccoons originating from the Grand River Territory have tested positive for rabies.

The first specimen was collected as roadkill by Six Nations Animal Control Services along Chiefswood Road and Third Line. It is unknown if any local animals came in contact with a rabid raccoon. Six Nations Police assisted Animal Control with safe removal of the second specimen from a barn located on Third Line near Tuscarora Road.

To help with prevention and/or spread of wildlife rabies, Six Nations has and will continue taking part in a province wide aerial baiting program. Six Nations Animal Control Services will also be scheduling Rabies Clinics. Community members who wish to have their pets vaccinated before or after the clinics can also visit local veterinarians in surrounding communities (fees will vary).