

Contact Info

To report human exposures, for consultation, or for lab testing questions 24/7:

Maine CDC 1-800-821-5821

www.maine.gov/dhhs/rabies

www.mainepublichealth.gov/lab

To report domestic animal exposures: contact the local town office, police department, or Animal Control Officer.

To report wild animal exposures:

Call the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife dispatch center nearest you:
Augusta: 1-800-452-4664
Bangor: 1-800-432-7381
Houlton: 1-800-924-2261
www.maine.gov/dfw

To report wild animals with no exposures or for general rabies questions:

USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
1-866-4-USDA-WS
207-629-5181
www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife-damage/rabies

For questions about livestock exposures:

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry
207-287-3701
www.maine.gov/dacf

Rabies in Maine



What is Rabies?

Rabies is a disease caused by the rabies virus. It affects the brain and spinal cord and can cause death if left untreated.

Rabies only infects mammals (animals with fur that produce milk).

Rabies in wild animals is common in Maine.

Commonly infected animals are raccoons, skunks, foxes, and bats.



How is Rabies Spread?

The rabies virus is found in the saliva, brain, and spinal cord of infected animals.

It is spread when an infected animal bites or deeply scratches a person or another animal.

Less commonly, it is spread when an infected animal's saliva, brain, or spinal cord tissue gets into a person or animal's mouth, nose, eyes, or cut in the skin.

If either of these things happens, it is considered a **rabies exposure**.

Rabies is NOT spread by:

- Blood
- Urine or feces
- Skunk spray
- Petting the fur of a rabid animal
- Touching dried saliva of a rabid animal
- Porcupine quills

You can't tell by looking at an animal if it has rabies.



Questions or concerns:
1-800-821-5821