

Animal Services News.  
September 17, 2014

**BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL & HEADING HOME**

- *We received 325 pets in August of which 251 were "live releases." Our 87% (adjusted) live release rate was impressive for what is always one of our busiest summer months.*
- *One hundred and eighty-four (184) animals were adopted, our second highest total ever and the 120 cat adoptions ranks as our highest monthly total for a single species.*
- *Monthly intakes compared to August of 2013 decreased by 8 percent (286 v. 308).*
- *We euthanized 65 animals during August. The average number of animals euthanized in August from 2009-2013 was 145 pets. This translates to a 55% reduction in euthanasia.*

**RABIES**

- *YTD we've had 20 confirmed rabies cases (12 raccoons, 3 foxes, 3 bats and 2 skunks)*
- *Attached is a copy of the packet Animal Services and the Health Department distributed to county veterinary clinics for World Rabies Day (September 28, 2014)*
- *Two low cost vaccination clinics are being held to coordination with World Rabies Day (see ASAB meeting agenda for details).*

**ASSORTED UPDATES**

- *One hundred and one (101) dogs—none being Dalmatians, by the way—attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Dog Swim (despite the rain date).*
- *Eighteen (18) cats and dogs are presently registered for our next Spay & Neuter Day*
- *We are moving forward with the new canine play exercise area made possible by a \$13,000 donation, e.g., coordinating with architects, Town of Chapel Hill, and other county staff.*
- *We are moving forward with a monthly Adopt-A-Pet section of Chapel Hill Magazine which will provide exposure in print media and on the magazine's website.*

**REFLECTIONS**

- *What lies "beyond" managing pet overpopulation as a vision for OC Animal Services?*
- *Not that we've accomplished our goal yet of effectively managing pet overpopulation but we are well along the way and arguably entering a final phase of a sustainable program.*
  - *We expect fewer than 3000 admissions this year for the first time*
  - *A decline of 1000 to 2000 since around 2000 despite human population growth*
- *Does the vision come to focus more on responsible pet ownership? the human animal bond? Or something else?*
- *Or something else? For instance, "pets for life," a model that HSUS is implementing in "disadvantaged" communities across the country.*
- *Our journey going forward should be no less inspired than it has been to date (see reverse side).*

*Prepared and updated by Bob Marotto,  
Animal Services Director*

**ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES:  
A SHORT HISTORY**

- *2004: County assumed operational responsibility for the animal shelter*
- *2005: Animal Services comes into existence as a free standing county department*
- *2005: Inaugural meeting of the Animal Services Advisory Board*
- *2009: Opening of county's new Animal Services Center*
- *2010: Implementation of strategic plan for managing pet overpopulation*
- *2015: Planned management of free-roaming cats begins*

***What will the future bring and what will we bring to the future?***



Orange County Animal Services  
1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
919-942-PETS (7387)

September 11, 2014

Dr. DeWana Anderson  
The Animal Hospital of Carrboro  
112 W. Main Street  
Carrboro, NC 27510

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Enclosed please find a flyer that provides information for your clients about rabies vaccination and quarantine requirements. The information in the poster is based upon current North Carolina General Statutes and their application in the prevention and control of rabies.

Also enclosed please find another information sheet about World Rabies Day (September 28<sup>th</sup>) with information from Orange County and the Alliance for Rabies Control on how to help educate the community on rabies and its transmission. Additional educational and outreach materials are available at the World Rabies Day web site ([www.worldrabiesday.org](http://www.worldrabiesday.org)).

In Orange County, Animal Services and the Health Department work closely together to control and prevent rabies. Events such as World Rabies Day are an excellent way to highlight this important matter and stress the importance of knowledge and awareness especially since Orange County has already received 19 positive cases this year.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the work that you do in helping to prevent and control rabies in Orange County. We are fortunate to work with so many civic-minded veterinary professionals, and we especially appreciate our good fortune in a challenging year like 2014 with the high number of laboratory confirmed rabies cases and other suspected rabies exposures. We are well aware that clinics have referred many cases to Animal Services and that doing the right thing is not easy given your relations with clients.

We very much look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff. Thank you for helping us increase awareness and promote responsible pet ownership in our community.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robert A. Marotto in black ink.

Robert A. Marotto  
Animal Services Director

Handwritten signature of Colleen Bridger in black ink.

Colleen Bridger, MPH, PHD  
Health Director

P.S. Animal Services would be delighted to provide you with one or more copies of a large poster that promotes spay/neuter and adoption at your request. We would be grateful for your help in promoting this message as well!

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## **World Rabies Day: Awareness is the best defense against rabies**

On September 28th rabies experts, health practitioners and activists are once again joining together on World Rabies Day to raise awareness about rabies prevention. Rabies is the oldest and deadliest disease known to mankind, but it is 100% preventable. This year, Orange County Animal Services is helping to highlight the plight of the 55,000 people still dying needlessly from the disease each year. Nearly half of them are in African countries, and are likely to be children under the age of 15

“Rabies is primarily a disease of children, who are particularly at risk because they come into close contact with dogs, the major global source,” said Dr. Deborah Briggs, Executive Director of the Alliance for Rabies Control. “Children are often unaware that dogs can transmit rabies, and may not tell their parents when they are bitten, licked or scratched by an infected animal.”

Once symptoms appear, rabies is fatal. This is why education is so important. Children and communities need to be made aware of the risk of rabies and what to do if someone is bitten:

### **What can you do to help?**

- Take the simple message in the box above and send it to as many people as you can, especially if you think they are at risk of being bitten by animals.
- Download free posters, flyers and educational materials from <http://rabiesalliance.org/resources/>
- Participate in our World Rabies Day events:
  - Low Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic; Thursday September 25, 2014 from 3-5PM at the Farmers Market in Hillsborough, NC
  - Low Cost Rabies Vaccination and Microchip Clinic; Saturday September 27, 2014 from 9AM-12PM at the Animal Services Center in Chapel Hill, NC
- If you have any questions call Josh Fisher, Veterinary Health Care Manager at (919) 942-7387 ext. 222

More information on World Rabies Day can be found at the official website, <http://rabiesalliance.org/world-rabies-day>

# ASÍ DE FÁCIL ES CONTRAER LA RABIA

SABÍA USTED QUE...

- LA RABIA ES UNA ENFERMEDAD MORTAL TRANSMITIDA POR MEDIO DE LA SALIVA
  - LOS PERROS NO VACUNADOS SE ARRIESGAN A CONTRAER LA RABIA
  - MUCHAS PERSONAS FALLECEN POR MORDEDURAS DE PERROS RABIOSOS
- SIN EMBARGO, LA RABIA SE PUEDE PREVENIR FÁCILMENTE

PROTÉGASE Y PROTÉGA A SU FAMILIA Y A SU COMUNIDAD DE LA RABIA

- VACUNE A SUS MASCOTAS DE FORMA RUTINARIA Y EVITE QUE UN PERRO LE MUERDA
  - EVITE CONTACTO CON ANIMALES CALLEJEROS Y SILVESTRES
  - EN CASOS DE MORDEDURA, LAVE BIEN LA HERIDA CON AGUA Y JABÓN
- CONSULTE A UN MÉDICO INMEDIATAMENTE

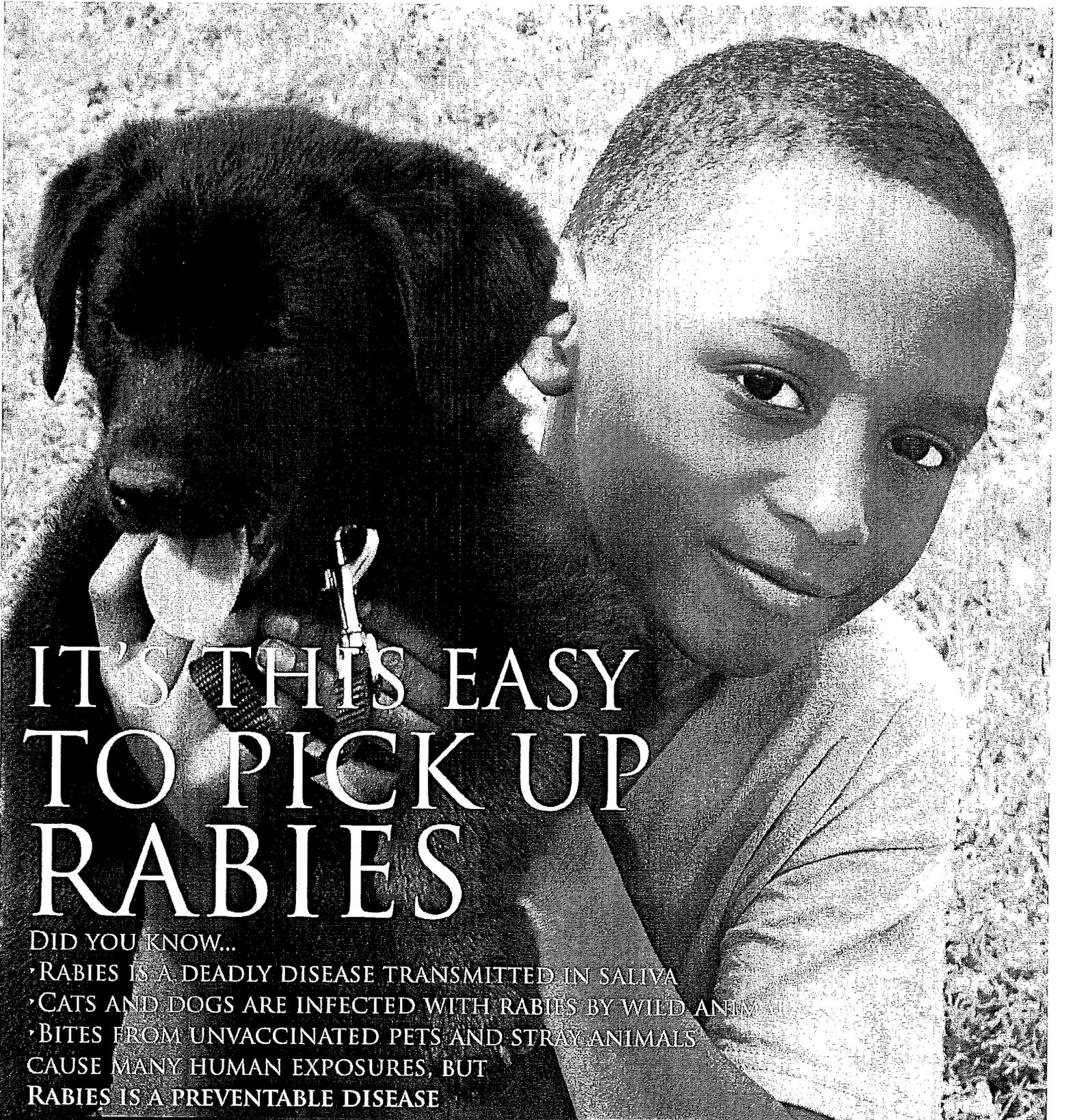


ALIANZA GLOBAL  
PARA EL CONTROL  
DE LA RABIA



[WorldRabiesDay.Org](http://WorldRabiesDay.Org)

*¡Trabajando juntos para que la rabia sea una historia del pasado!*



# IT'S THIS EASY TO PICK UP RABIES

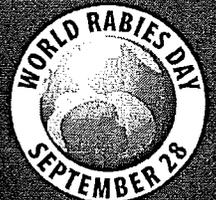
DID YOU KNOW...

- RABIES IS A DEADLY DISEASE TRANSMITTED IN SALIVA
- CATS AND DOGS ARE INFECTED WITH RABIES BY WILD ANIMALS
- BITES FROM UNVACCINATED PETS AND STRAY ANIMALS CAUSE MANY HUMAN EXPOSURES, BUT RABIES IS A PREVENTABLE DISEASE

Protect yourself, your pet and your community:

- Vaccinate all dogs, cats and ferrets against rabies
- Avoid contact with wildlife and stray animals
- If bitten, wash the wound thoroughly, see your doctor

*Working Together to Make Rabies History!*



[WorldRabiesDay.Org](http://WorldRabiesDay.Org)



# PROTECT YOUR PET

## What You May Not Know About Rabies Vaccinations

(Effective October 1, 2009)\*

### Vaccinate At 4 Months And After!

- All dogs, cats and ferrets are required to be vaccinated at **4 months of age** (even if they are indoor animals). All dogs are required to wear a current rabies tag. Cats and ferrets are subject to this requirement as well (unless a local exemption exists). Once vaccinated, contact your veterinarian and schedule a booster for your pet before their rabies vaccine becomes overdue to ensure your pet is current and that their vaccination never lapses.

### It Takes 28 Days For The *First* Shot To Protect

- An animal receiving its **first** dose of rabies vaccine is not protected until at least **28 days** after the vaccine is given, and is treated as unvaccinated until that time.

### After The First Shot, Vaccines Protect Immediately

- Animals that have been vaccinated before in their lifetime are considered protected immediately upon receiving subsequent vaccinations. This is true even if there is a lapse between vaccinations, unless the animal has already had a potential rabies exposure.

### A Current Vaccination Is Not Enough If Your Pet Is Exposed

- **Vaccinated** animals that have **contact** with a rabid animal **MUST** be **re-vaccinated within 5 days** (120 hours) of the exposure. If not, the animal is treated as unvaccinated.

### Identify Your Pet!

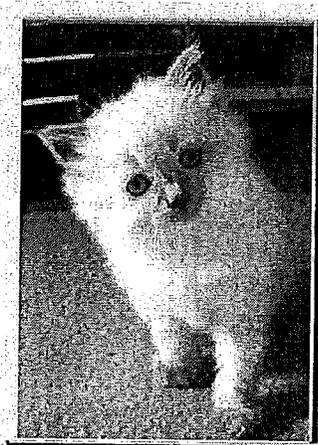
- Roaming, unidentified animals that bite someone **can be euthanized** 72 hours after a bite. Wearing required tags, as well as personal ID tags and microchips, will help protect your pet.

### Unvaccinated Animals Must Be Euthanized Or Quarantined At Your Cost If Exposed

- **Unvaccinated** animals that could have contact with a rabid animal (or an animal that may carry rabies) **MUST** be euthanized or quarantined for 6 months (see below) to ensure that the animal is not going to develop rabies as a result of the exposure.

### Animals With Expired Vaccinations Are Treated As Unvaccinated

- An animal whose vaccination has **expired** must be euthanized immediately or quarantined for 6 months if exposed to rabies. Quarantines of this kind are almost always at a veterinarian's office and the owner is responsible for the cost, which can easily add up to thousands of dollars.



\*These requirements are from North Carolina's General Statutes. Prior to October 1, first vaccinations are considered effective after 21 days, vaccinated animals that are exposed must be reboosted within 72 hours, and ferrets are not required to be vaccinated.