



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: July 31st, 2023

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Carroll County General Health District

Oral Rabies Vaccine Bait Drop

On Monday, July 31, 2023, the United States Department of Agriculture began to distribute oral rabies vaccine packs by plane or helicopter in Carroll County. Oral Rabies Vaccine Baits will also be dropped in Ashtabula, Belmont, Columbiana, Geauga, Harrison, Jefferson, Lake, Mahoning, Monroe, Portage, and Trumbull counties. The bait drop is to stop the further spread of rabies in the wild raccoon population. You may find vaccine packs in your yard or around the community. Depending on weather conditions, the rabies vaccine bait drop should be completed by Aug. 25, 2023.

What should you do if you find a rabies vaccination bait pack? - If you find a bait pack, please leave it alone. Tell children to avoid the bait pack. It is best to leave the bait pack alone unless found in your driveway, yard, or other area where a child or pet could easily find it. If an intact bait pack is found in one of these locations, use gloves to move the bait pack to a more wooded area. Wearing gloves when you pick up a bait will help you avoid exposure to the rabies vaccine. If you have touched the bait pack, thoroughly wash that area with soap and water. Please seek medical attention if you have touched a bait pack and experience a rash, fever, sore throat, headache, eye irritation, vomiting, or diarrhea.

What should you do if your pet eats a rabies vaccination bait pack? - The bait pack is not harmful to your pet. Eating bait packs may cause your pet to have an upset stomach or throw up. Do not take the bait away from your pet as you could get bitten or exposed to the vaccine. If your pet eats a bait pack, avoid your pet's saliva for 24 hours, and wash skin or wounds that may have been licked.

If you or your pet have touched a rabies vaccine pack, please contact the Ohio Department of Health at 1-888-574-6656.

For more information on the Oral Rabies Vaccination Campaign refer to the following webpage link: [Oral Rabies Vaccination Campaign | Ohio Department of Health](#)

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the Community Engagement Coordinator, Angela Toth, at the Carroll County General Health District by calling (330) 627-4866 ext. 1559.

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