

## First Aid for Bite or Exposure



1. Wash the wound thoroughly with soap and warm water, rinse for several minutes.
2. Control any bleeding
3. Put a bandage or gauze on the wound.
4. Seek medical attention for
  - Proper wound care
  - Antibiotics
  - Tetanus booster
  - Rabies shots (if necessary)

## Animals known to carry rabies

### Higher risk

Bats Raccoons  
Dogs Coyote  
Fox Skunks  
Cat Mink

### Lower Risk

Squirrels  
Gerbils  
Hamsters  
Rabbits  
Mice  
Chipmunks

## Resources

### Medical Treatment

- Mayo Clinic-Red Cedar: 715-233-7677
- Marshfield Clinic: 715-233-6400
- Dunn County Health Department: 715-232-2388

### Reporting Animal Bites

- Dunn County Sherriff: 715-232-1348
- Menomonie Police Department: 715-232-1283
- Dunn County Health Department: 715-232-2388

### For More Information

- [www.cdc.gov/rabies](http://www.cdc.gov/rabies)
- [dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/Rabies/index.htm](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/Rabies/index.htm)



### Dunn County Health Department

3001 US Hwy 12 E, Suite 032  
Menomonie, WI 54751  
715-232-2388

## Dunn County Health Department



# RABIES

## Prevention & Animal Bite Care

### Environmental Health

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Menomonie, WI 54751  
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## Prevention

Rabies prevention means both preventing animal bites and making sure your pets have their rabies shots.

- Do not approach or touch a wild animal
- Do not handle stray dogs or cats
- Do not attempt to separate fighting animals
- Keep your pet on a leash
- Vaccinate your pet against rabies with 1, 2, or 3 year vaccines



## What is an Animal Bite or Exposure?

- Any penetration of the skin including scratches or punctures
- Contact with any animal's body fluids with your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Discovering a bat when awaking in a room, especially with an unattended child or an incapacitated person.

## Bite Reporting

Report bites to local law enforcement or the health department.

- Law enforcement may quarantine cats, dogs, and ferrets only.
- High risk animals need to be quarantined or tested for rabies.

## Domestic Animals

- Contact law enforcement and they will issue a home or veterinary clinic quarantine.
- A pet dog, cat, or ferret that is current on rabies shots can be quarantined at home for 10 days. These animals must be confined in an enclosure at all times and not allowed access to family members or other individuals, or other animals.
- The pets need to be examined for signs of rabies by the veterinarian three times. Once at the beginning of the quarantine, once at the end, and one day in between.
- The cost of the quarantine and veterinarian visits is the pet owner's responsibility.

## Bats

- DO NOT DISPOSE, FREEZE, OR SMASH THE BAT
- Catch the bat by trapping it in an ice cream pail or sack while wearing leather gloves.
- Bring the bat to a veterinarian to be sent to the state lab for testing.
- The brain must be intact for a valid lab test.



## Stray Animals

A domestic animal that does not have identification

- Contact law enforcement or the health department to report the bite.
- If you are feeding and/or sheltering a "stray" you are considered the owner.
- A stray dog, cat, or ferret must be captured and quarantined at a vet clinic for ten days.
- If the animal cannot be found, the person who was bitten needs to complete the rabies shot series.



## Wild Animals

Raccoons, Skunks, Foxes, etc.

- A wild animal should be regarded as rabid unless a laboratory test confirms it does not have rabies.
- The animal should be captured and taken to the veterinarian to be sent in for testing.
- Rabies shots should be started and finished unless lab results are found to be negative.
- If the wild animal cannot be found, rabies shots need to be completed.