

News Release

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For Immediate Release
August 28, 2017

Health department, humane society sponsor rabies clinic Sept 9

The Knox County Health Department and Knox County Humane Society will sponsor a rabies immunization clinic on Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the garage located behind the health department, 11660 Upper Gilchrist Rd.

The clinic is for dogs, cats and ferrets. Rabies vaccination is recommended for all pets, including those kept inside.

“Each year, we investigate more than 125 animal bites in Knox County,” said Terri Hillier, registered sanitarian who investigates animal bites for the Knox County Health Department. “Whether it be an outside pet or an inside pet, dog or cat, if the animal bites someone, the first question we ask is if the animal has had a rabies shot,” said Hillier. “If not, there’s a possibility the animal might have to be euthanized, especially if it is showing signs of erratic behavior.”

One-year and three-year vaccinations will be offered. Proof of last year’s vaccinations will be needed to receive the three-year vaccination. There is a \$15 charge for the one-year vaccination; \$20 for the three-year vaccination. No nursing, pregnant or sick animals will be treated. The clinic veterinarian, Dr. Elaine Sipka, DVM, will have the final say on whether an animal receives the rabies vaccination. Micro-chipping is available for \$30.

Dogs should be brought to the clinic on a leash; cats and ferrets should be contained in a carrier. Pet owners will be required to complete paperwork on site for record-keeping purposes. Vaccinated dogs will receive a rabies tag that can be attached to the animal’s collar; cat and ferret owners will receive a receipt for vaccine verification.

The clinic will take place in the garage behind the main health department building. The animals will be vaccinated in a confined area to avoid pet escapes.

For more information, contact the Knox County Humane Society at 740-392-2287.

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