

NOTICE

ORAL RABIES VACCINATION (ORV) PROJECT



The United States Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services in cooperation with the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services, will be working in this area in October to help stop the spread of rabies by setting out special edible baits to orally vaccinate wildlife raccoons against rabies..

The vaccine packets or baits, which resemble ketchup packets but contain liquid rabies vaccine, are coated with fish meal to make them tasty to raccoons. When they bite the packet, they become vaccinated against rabies. These baits will be dropped from low-flying airplanes and by local teams on foot or in vehicles.

**This year's Aerial Baiting project
will run:
October 7-10, 2008**

What if I find an oral vaccine bait?

Baits should usually be left alone, but intact baits can be moved if they are found where children and pets play. Damaged baits should be bagged and disposed of in the trash.

- Wear gloves or use a paper towel when picking up a bait.
- Toss intact bait into a fencerow, woodlot, ditch or other raccoon-habitat areas.
- Wash your hands after any skin contact with a damaged bait.

What if my pet eats a bait?

- A few baits are not harmful, although eating a lot may cause vomiting or diarrhea.
- Do not risk getting bitten by taking bait away from your pet.
- If your pet eats the plastic vaccine pouch, it should not harm them. Consult your veterinarian if you notice any problems.

How can I help with the bait drop?

You can help by being aware of what the baits look like and encouraging children to leave them alone. Pet owners can help by keeping all dogs and cats inside or on a leash so the baits can be eaten by raccoons. Most baits will be eaten by raccoons within three weeks.



State of North Carolina
N. C. Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health —Veterinary Public Health



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Wildlife Services