

DISEASE PREVENTION

Potential Rabies Exposure Guidance FOR PET OWNERS



Whitman County
Public Health

Whitman County Pet Owner,

Your dog or cat has bitten or scratched a person. In an effort to eliminate any risk of potential rabies exposure, Whitman County Public Health requests that you do the following:

- **If your animal was not showing signs of rabies* at the time of the bite,**
please confine (prevent escape, prevent bites or scratches to additional people)
for 10 days from the date of the bite and observe for signs of rabies*.
 - If your animal remains healthy for 10 days, it does not have rabies. If the animal is not up to date for the rabies vaccination, give the vaccination at the end of the 10-day isolation.
 - If your animal develops signs of rabies*, dies, or needs to be euthanized due to humane reasons, call your local veterinarian to discuss rabies testing.
- **If your animal is showing signs of rabies* at time of the bite,**
call your local veterinarian to discuss euthanasia and rabies testing.

In health,

Whitman County Public Health

* Early symptoms of rabies may include lethargy, fever, vomiting, and loss of appetite. Later symptoms may include difficulty with balance and walking, difficulty swallowing, seizures, difficulty breathing, excessive salivation, and abnormal behavior.

