

## Why vaccinate your pets?

Pets, especially outdoor ones, can easily come in contact with rabid animals.

If your pets are unvaccinated, and they come in contact with a rabid animal, they can contract rabies.

Unvaccinated pets that come in contact with a potentially rabid animal might be required to go through an extensive quarantine process that can be costly, or they might have to be euthanized.

**Vaccination is the easiest way to protect your pets from rabies.**



## Livestock Recommendations

CSU provides information on protecting livestock and horses.

<http://bit.ly/21WCnLf>

## Larimer County Department of Health and Environment

1525 Blue Spruce Drive

Fort Collins, CO 80524

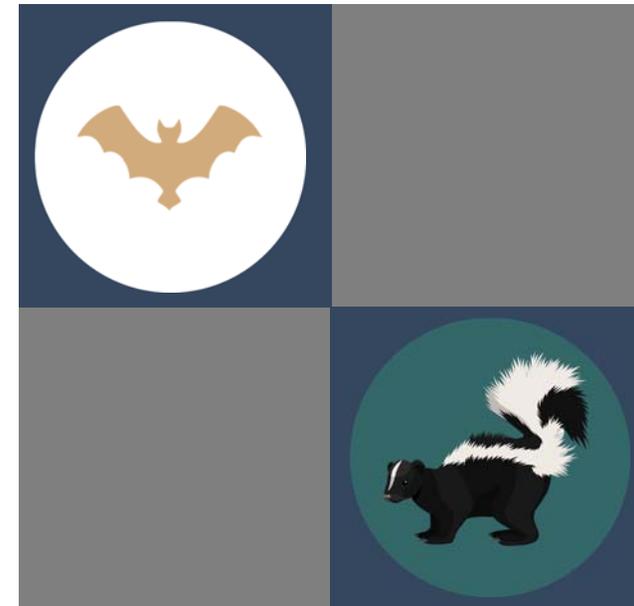
(970) 498-6775

[www.larimer.org/health](http://www.larimer.org/health)



**Department of Health and Environment**

## Rabies Awareness and Protection in Larimer County



**Larimer County Department of Health and Environment**

## About Rabies

Rabies is an infectious disease caused by a virus that can affect both animals and humans. The virus is transmitted by the saliva of an infected animal, usually through a bite. It attacks the brain and nervous system and is fatal. Rabies is preventable but not treatable.

## Transmission

Mammals are the only animals that carry and transmit rabies.

The virus is most commonly found in skunks and bats in Larimer County, but can also be found in foxes, raccoons and coyotes.

Pets can become infected as well. If you have outdoor animals, make sure you vaccinate them against rabies. Rabies is found in city limits as well as in rural parts of the county.



## Best Protection - Vaccinate your Animals



## Behaviors to Watch for in Animals

- Normally nocturnal animals out during the day, such as skunks and bats
- Animals stumbling, weak, or paralyzed.
- Bats on the ground unable to fly
- Unusually aggressive or tame behavior while approaching humans or pets



## Tips to Stay Safe

- Don't keep wild animals as pets.
- Avoid handling wild or feral animals.
- Avoid animals showing unusual behavior.
- Prevent contact between pets and wildlife. Obey leash laws.
- Feed your pets indoors and don't leave pet food outside or uncovered in a barn.
- Put trash in secure bins and animal proof if needed.
- Prevent wildlife from getting into your house.
- Report stray animals that appear to be sick to animal control at 970-226-3647.

## If you get bitten by a wild animal:

Wash the bitten area with water and soap immediately. This will decrease the chance of infection.

Seek medical help  
immediately.



If the animal bit you in an enclosed area, try and contain the animal. Do not release the animal. If it is caught, it can be tested for rabies. A negative test can mean less health care costs for you after an exposure. Report any contact with wild animals to animal control at 970-226-3647 extension 7.