



PRESS RELEASE

From the Office of the Commissioner of Health, Dr. Gale R. Burstein

Date September 16, 2016

CONTACT: Mary C. St. Mary/Mary.StMary@Erie.Gov
Phone: 716.858.4941/ Mobile: 716.253.3925

1,000+ Pets Receive Rabies Vaccine in 3 Hours

CLINIC AT ECC NORTH CAMPUS IS TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

ERIE COUNTY, NY— On Wednesday, September 14, 2016, the Vector Control and Rabies Prevention team, from the Erie County Department of Health’s (ECDOH) Division of Environmental Health, conducted an extremely successful rabies vaccination clinic at the North Campus of Erie Community College.

In a little over three hours’ time, 1,056 pets (dogs, cats and ferrets) received vaccinations that will protect them from the fatal threat of rabies. “This is an outstanding accomplishment by our team, led by **Senior Public Health Sanitarian Peter Tripi,**” **stated Dr. Gale Burstein, Erie County Commissioner of Health.** “We continue to educate Erie County residents on the very real risks

| | Total |
|----------------|--------------|
| Dogs | 757 |
| Cats | 287 |
| Ferrets | 12 |
| Total | 1,056 |

of encountering rabies virus-exposed wildlife and subsequent life-threatening consequences to both humans and pets. Cost should not be a factor in order to protect your pets and family from an extremely preventable risk. These annual rabies vaccination clinics provide an invaluable public health service.”

“We could not accomplish this without the valuable assistance of volunteers from the Niagara Frontier Veterinary Society veterinarians and Medaille College’s Veterinary Technology program’s veterinary technologists who safely and efficiently vaccinate the pets in what can be a stressful environment for the animals,” **said Tripi.** “Then our volunteers from the SPCA serving Erie County and the Specialized Medical Assistance Response Team (“SMART”) take over to complete the necessary documentation in short order.”



There are 2 free rabies vaccination clinics remaining in 2016:

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20TH **SPRINGVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, 405 W. MAIN ST.**

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28TH **WEST SENECA HIGHWAY GARAGE, 39 SOUTH AVE. (OFF UNION RD.)**

Both clinics are from 4-7pm.

Additional information on the clinics can be obtained by calling (716) 961-6800.

#

For More Information:

[ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH](#)

[NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH](#)

[NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH](#)—RABIES FACT SHEET

[CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION](#)



**Erie County
Department of
Health**



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



**Erie County
Department of
Health**



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

How to Protect Against Rabies

- *Do not feed, touch or adopt wild animals, stray dogs or cats. Assume all wildlife & feral animals are rabid.*
- *Be sure your pet dogs, cats and ferrets and horses and valuable livestock animals are up-to-date on their rabies vaccinations. Vaccination protects pets if they are exposed to rabid animals. Pets too young to be vaccinated should be kept indoors and allowed outside only under direct observation.*
- *Keep family pets indoors at night. Do not leave them outside unattended or let them roam free.*
- *Do not attract wild animals to your home or yard. Keep your property free of stored bird seed or other foods that may attract wild animals. Feed pets indoors. Tightly cap or put away garbage cans. Board up any openings to your attic, basement, porch or garage. Cap your chimney with screens.*
- *If nuisance wild animals are living in parts of your home, consult with a nuisance wildlife control expert about having them removed.*
- *Teach children not to touch any animal they do not know and to tell an adult immediately if they are bitten or scratched by any animal.*
- *If a wild animal is on your property, let it wander away. Bring children and pets indoors and alert neighbors who are outside.*

Report all animal bites or contact with wild animals:

ECDOH Vector Control
716.961.6800 M-F Business Hours
716.961.7898 Evenings/Weekends



**FOLLOW ECDOH
(CONTROL + CLICK)**

