

# How to Prevent Rabies

- Vaccinate your pets and livestock.
- Do not feed or handle wild or stray animals.
- Teach children that although animals may look cute it can be very dangerous to approach them.
- Always avoid sick or strange-acting animals.
- Cover your garbage cans, and don't leave pet food outside, which can attract wild animals.
- Do not keep wild animals as pets, it is against the law.
- Do not touch dead animals.
- Leave bats alone, and do not maintain "bat houses" near your home.
- Keep bats out of your home by closing or covering your attic or other dark sheltered areas.

## Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency

 (530) 225-5591

 [www.shastahhsa.net](http://www.shastahhsa.net)

 2650 Breslauer Way Redding, CA 96001

### Animal Control Agencies

#### Shasta County Sheriff Animal Regulation

 (530) 245-6065

 2690 Radio Lane, Redding, CA 96001

#### Redding Animal Regulation (Haven)

 (530) 241-2550

 7449 Eastside Rd., Redding, CA 96001

#### City of Shasta Lake Animal Control

 (530) 275-7480

 1650 Stanton Dr., Shasta Lake, CA 96019



## What You Should Know About

# RABIES

Rabies is 100% preventable in people if they seek care right after a bite.

For more information, scan this:



Shasta County  
Health & Human  
Services Agency



## What You Need to Know

- Rabies is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus that infects the brain.
- People and animals with rabies almost always die once symptoms begin.
- People and animals can get rabies from the bite of a sick animal.
- In California, bats and skunks are animals that most often have rabies.
- You can help prevent rabies by preventing bites from wild or unfamiliar animals (especially bats and skunks), and by vaccinating your pets. All dogs in California are required by law to be vaccinated against rabies.
- Rabies is 100% preventable in people if they seek medical care from a healthcare provider immediately after an animal bite.

## What is rabies?

Rabies is a disease that can affect animals and people. Rabies is caused by a virus that attacks the brain and nerves. When infected, Rabies spreads and kills the victims, if they are not vaccinated quickly. The good news is that rabies in humans, pets, and livestock can be prevented by a vaccine.

For people who are bitten or scratched by an infected animal, prompt treatment with a vaccine will protect the person from getting rabies. Treatment usually involves a total of 4 shots of safe and effective rabies vaccine.

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## How does it spread?

The rabies virus is spread through the saliva of an infected animal, usually because the infected animal bites a person or another animal. The virus may also get into the body from the infected animal's saliva getting into open cuts or wounds, or through the eyes, nose, or mouth, though this is less common. Rarely, scratches can transmit.

## What to do if bitten, scratched, or exposed to animal's saliva:

- Wash the wound right away with soap and water for 10 minutes.
- Call your doctor or a hospital emergency room.
- Get a description of the animal that bit or scratched you.
- Call your local animal control officer for assistance. The animal that bit or scratched you may need to be treated for rabies or quarantined.
- If your pet was the one bitten, use gloves and a hose to wash your pet's wound. Do not touch your pet with your bare hands. Call your veterinarian and animal control officer.

