



# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UNIT

### PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

April 14, 2015

<b>Communicable Disease:</b>	<b>Rabid bat found</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Westside, Santa Cruz, Escalona Dr. near Miramar</b>
<b>Date Bat Found:</b>	<b>April 6, 2015</b>
<b>Contact Phone:</b>	<b>Laurie Lang, 831-454-4733</b>

### INCIDENT

A bat, brought into the Public Health Laboratory by the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter, tested positive for rabies on April 9, 2015. There were no known human exposures to this bat. Two dogs were quarantined as they might have been exposed.

### INFORMATION

- Do not touch a dead or injured bat. Call Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter at 831-454-7303 and they will remove it safely.
- Children should be instructed to avoid approaching any unfamiliar animal, especially a wild animal. If you find an animal in distress, call the Animal Shelter.
- Pets are at risk for rabies. Be certain your dog, cat or any pet who spends time outdoors is up-to-date on their rabies vaccine. If you find your pet playing with an injured or ill-appearing wild animal, notify your veterinarian and Animal Control immediately. Animal Control can be reached at 831-454-7303.
- **The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter is offering low-cost rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats through a new program called One Stop.** All city and county residents are welcome to use this service where residents can come to the Animal Shelter at 2200 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Santa Cruz, Monday through Friday from 1pm to 3pm. No appointment is required. The rabies vaccine for dogs is \$10 with dog license renewal purchase. First time dog licensees will receive a FREE rabies vaccine with dog license purchase (\$29 for an altered pet and \$100 unaltered). All rabies vaccines for cats are \$10.
- Rabies is a deadly disease. The human rabies vaccine series will provide protection against the disease if given as soon as possible after a bite by a rabid or suspected animal.

- Residents are asked to report all animal bites to Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter at 831-454-7303.

**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.