



COUNTY OF LINCOLN, NORTH CAROLINA

650 JOHN HOWELL MEMORIAL DRIVE, LINCOLNTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28092

ANIMAL SERVICES

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May 26, 2017

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For release May 26, 2017

Lincoln County has Second Confirmed Rabies Case of 2017

In the early hours of Thursday, May 25th, 2017, Lincoln County Animal Services received a call about a fox that had been injured on a property in the area of Hwy 73 and Club Drive, Stanley NC. Animal Control retrieved the fox, and due to the possibility of an exposure it was processed for rabies testing. On May 26th, 2017, the official test results were received from the NC Laboratory of Public Health. The fox tested positive for rabies. This is the second positive rabies result in Lincoln County in 2017. In 2015 there were four positive rabies results, and in 2016 there was one.

Animal Control Officers are canvassing the area where the fox was picked up, to inform residents in the immediate vicinity. Lincoln County Animal Services would like to again remind residents that rabies vaccination for dogs, cats, and ferrets over the age of 4 months is required by law. If confirmed to be exposed to rabies and not currently vaccinated, or too young to be vaccinated, state law requires the animal be destroyed, or quarantined for a period of six months. A current rabies vaccination is absolutely lifesaving for animals that are exposed to rabies.

Ensuring that pets are currently vaccinated not only protects them, but helps to protect public health, and the health and safety of pet owners and the community.

To keep yourself safe, don't approach or handle wildlife. Signs of rabies in wild animals can include abnormal amounts of aggression or friendliness, disorientation, wobbliness, circling, and excessive salivation. If you see or come into contact with a wild animal that may be sick, or is exhibiting signs of abnormal behavior, call Animal Services at (704) 736-4125, or dial 911 to report it.

Additional Information: 1 year rabies vaccinations for cats and dogs are available for \$7 at Lincoln County Animal Services, 650 John Howell Memorial Drive, Lincolnton NC. Please visit us Monday-Friday, between the hours of 10am-5pm to have your pets vaccinated. Alternatively, 1 year and 3 year vaccines are also available through your local veterinarian. Our next rabies clinic will also be at West Lincoln Animal Hospital, on June 24th, 2017, from 12:00pm to 4:00pm.

Please call LCAS at 704-736-4125 for more information