



Lincoln County Government
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8th, 2025

Lincoln County Third Positive Rabies Case of 2025

(Lincolnton) Lincoln County Animal Services has confirmed the county's third rabies case of 2025. On Monday, May 5th, dogs killed a racoon at a residence off Fairview Church Rd, Cherryville. No one else was injured. The racoon was submitted to the North Carolina State Laboratory for rabies testing on May 6th.

On Thursday, May 8th, the Lincoln County Health Department received confirmation of a positive rabies test for the racoon. We recommend all pet owners to ensure their indoor and outdoor animals are kept current on their rabies vaccine and take advantage of vaccination opportunities through Lincoln County Animal Services and low-cost clinics sponsored by Helping Animals to Survive (HATS). Lincoln County residents may schedule an appointment with Lincoln County Animal Services to receive a 1-year rabies vaccination for \$7 per pet. 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 encounter a wild animal that may be sick, or is exhibiting signs of abnormal behavior, call Animal Services at (704) 736-4125 to report it.

Resources for rabies vaccination:

Lincoln County Animal Services: <https://www.lincolncountync.gov/702/Animal-Services>

Helping Animals To Survive (HATS): <https://www.hatsalive.org/calendar-2/>