

**Lincoln County Government**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lincoln County Eighth Positive Rabies Case of 2025

(Lincolnton) Lincoln County Animal Services has confirmed the county's eighth rabies case of 2025. On Wednesday August 6th, a resident notified Animal Services regarding a skunk that was located on an outdoor patio where it had chased a family dog onto a chair in the 4000 block of Botany Trail. The skunk was dispatched and submitted to the North Carolina State Laboratory for rabies testing. There was no human exposure.

On Tuesday, August 12th, Lincoln County Animal Services received confirmation of a positive rabies test for the skunk. The dog received a rabies vaccination booster and was placed on a 45-day observation period. 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 \$10 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/>