



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The City of Rosenberg Animal Control Officers help in the fight against Rabies as the State kicks of the Oral Rabies Vaccination Program (ORVP)

ROSENBERG (Friday, January 16, 2015): Rosenberg Animal Control Officers will be doing their part to help the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) in the fight against rabies. On January 15, 2015, DSHS began the process of air dropping approximately 2.7 million vaccine baits all over South, West-Central and East-Central Texas. This process will continue for about the next three weeks. The City of Rosenberg Animal Control Officers will assist in the effort hand placing baits in various locations throughout Rosenberg. The Animal Control Officers will be focusing on strategic locations throughout the City which have a history of rabies activity. The baits which Animal control will be placing consist of a dose of vaccine being placed inside a plastic sachet, which is coated with fish-meal crumbles. The baits are brown and look like dirty ketchup packets from a fast food restaurant. They are approximately 2" x 0.75" x 0.12" in size. Larger baits will be air-dropped by DSHS.

The vaccine baits are designed to target wildlife species such as coyotes, gray foxes and skunks. According to DSHS, the vaccine baits will not hurt pets or livestock if they consume one of the baits. Anyone finding vaccine bait is encouraged to leave it alone as the wildlife will detect the human scent.

Recommended Responses:

Human Contact:

1. If the bait is intact, pick it up with a paper towel or gloves and throw it into wildlife habitat, away from pets and kids.
2. If bait is damaged or no good areas exist in which to throw back into habitat then protect your hands, place the bait into a plastic bag and dispose of it in the trash.
3. In every instance, wash with soap and water all skin which may have contacted the bait.
4. If the bait is ruptured and the vaccine has contacted an open wound, wash the area thoroughly, and, if there is any unusual reaction within the next 7 days, contact your doctor and call DSHS at 512-458-7255.

Pet Contact:



1. If baits have fallen within the confinement area of your pet, check the area and remove all baits using a paper towel or gloves. Throw the bait back into habitat away from pets and kids or put it in a plastic bag and dispose of in the trash.
2. If the vaccine bait has ruptured, keep your pet from licking anyone for the next 48 hours. Wash any skin contacted by the pet's saliva during the 48 hour period.
3. If your pet eats a large number of baits, they may have diarrhea. If the diarrhea persists more than 24 hours, contact your veterinarian.

For more information on the program, citizens can contact the DSHS at 1-877-732-5725, or visit <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/rabies/orvp/information/pamphlet/>.



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