



COUNTY OF LINCOLN, NORTH CAROLINA

650 JOHN HOWELL MEMORIAL DRIVE, LINCOLNTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28092

ANIMAL SERVICES

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Lincoln County has First Confirmed Rabies Case of 2018

On Wednesday, May 16th, 2018 Lincoln County Animal Services received a call about a fox that was found dead in a dog lot on the 4700 block of Ritchie Road, Lincolnton NC. Animal Control retrieved the fox, and it was processed for rabies testing. On May 18th, 2018 the official test results were received from the NC Laboratory of Public Health. The fox tested positive for rabies. This is the first positive rabies result in Lincoln County in 2018. In this case the dogs had a rabies vaccination history, so they were able to receive a booster vaccine.

Animal Control Officers will be visiting residents in the area where the fox was picked up, to inform residents in the immediate vicinity. Lincoln County Animal Services would like to remind residents that rabies vaccination for dogs, cats, and ferrets over the age of 4 months is required by law. A current rabies vaccination is 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 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. Yearly rabies clinics are also coming up in June (cash and check only).

UPCOMING RABIES CLINICS: **June 9th** – at East Lincoln High School
June 16th – at Lincolnton Animal Hospital
June 23rd – at West Lincoln Animal Hospital

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