

May 23, 2024

## DOH-Leon Issues Rabies Alert



**Contact:**

Wallace Ward  
Wallace.Ward@FLHealth.gov  
850-404-6328

**Tallahassee, Fla.**—The Florida Department of Health in Leon County (DOH-Leon) is monitoring rabies among wild animals in the area. This is in response to three confirmed cases of rabies in foxes that were killed, one in the Tallahassee Community College area off Cactus Street in Leon County on April 10, 2024, and two in the West Tharpe area off Gloria Drive in Leon County on April 12, 2024, and April 15, 2024. All residents and visitors should be aware that rabies may be currently present in the wild animal population.

People and domestic animals should always avoid physical contact with wild animals (e.g., raccoons, bats, foxes, skunks, otters, bobcats, coyotes), which carry a higher risk of human exposure and a need for rabies post-exposure treatment. If you are exposed to rabies, receiving appropriate treatment after exposure will protect you from the risk of rabies.

This rabies alert is for 60 days and includes the following boundaries in Leon County:

- **Northern boundary: West Tharpe St.**
- **Southern boundary: West Pensacola**
- **Eastern boundary: Gloria Drive**
- **Western boundary: Cactus St.**

**Take the following precautions to prevent rabies exposure:**

- Immunize your pets and livestock based on your veterinarian's recommended schedule.
- Keep pets under direct supervision and on a leash, and keep livestock secured on your property. If an animal bites your pet or livestock, seek veterinary assistance for the animal immediately and contact City of Tallahassee Animal Control at 850-891-2958.
- Avoid contact with wild or stray animals. Do not handle, feed, or unintentionally attract them with outdoor pet food, open garbage cans, or other sources of food. If you have been bitten or scratched by a wild or domestic animal, seek medical attention, and report the injury to DOH-Leon by calling 850-895-8360.
- Never adopt wild animals or bring them into your home; instead contact a [licensed wildlife rehabilitator](#).
- Call your local animal control agency to remove any stray animals from your neighborhood. Contact City of Tallahassee Animal Control 850- 891-2958.
- Prevent wildlife, including [bats](#), from entering living quarters or occupied spaces in homes, schools, and other similar areas where they might come in contact with people and pets.

For more information on rabies, please visit [FloridaHealth.gov/Rabies](https://www.floridahealth.gov/Rabies) or contact DOH-Leon at 850-895-8360.

###

### About the Florida Department of Health

The Department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts.

Follow us on X at [@HealthyFla](#) and on [Facebook](#). For more information about the Florida Department of Health, visit [FloridaHealth.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov).