

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

ONEIDACOUNTYNY.GOV/HEALTH

News Release

Date: December 23, 2025
For Immediate Release

Contact: Megan Graziano
315-798-5229

Raccoon Tests Positive for Rabies in Chadwicks *Oneida County Health Department Urges Residents to Recognize Signs of Rabies*

A raccoon has tested positive for rabies in Chadwicks. The raccoon was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on December 22, 2025 and positive results were reported on the same day, December 22, 2025. One person was exposed to the raccoon and is receiving post-exposure prophylaxis.

Signs of rabies include:

- Animal acting strangely
- Animal acting mad
- Animal acting shy
- Animal getting unusually close
- Drooling or foaming from the mouth

If you see an animal, wild or stray, with these signs, do not approach it and stay away. If any animal is acting strangely, call your local animal control officer for help. Additional resources include:

- [Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator: Licensed by the Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\)](#)
- [Wildlife Rehabilitator: Licensed by the Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\)](#)
- [Department of Environmental Conservation at 1-844-332-3267](#)
- Local police department

Per NYS Public Health Law, all dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated by 4 months-old and then one year following the initial dose. Dogs and cats need to receive a booster dose every three years following. Ferrets must receive booster doses annually. For the safety of pets and the convenience of county residents, the Oneida County Health Department offers Rabies Vaccination Clinics throughout the year in various communities. Additional rabies vaccination clinics will be offered in 2026.

For more information on rabies prevention, visit oneidacountyny.gov/rabies. If you have questions or are concerned about a possible rabies exposure, contact the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

ADMINISTRATION

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
800 PARK AVE. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-6400 • FAX: (315) 266-6138

SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
800 PARK AVE. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5249 • FAX: (315) 731-3491

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
800 PARK AVE. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5064 • FAX: (315) 798-6486

CLINICAL SERVICES

ONEIDA COUNTY CLINIC BUILDING
406 ELIZABETH ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5747 • FAX: (315) 798-1057