



# ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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“PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY”

ONEIDACOUNTYNY.GOV/HEALTH

## News Release

**Date: May 28, 2026**  
**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Megan Graziano**  
**315-798-5229**

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

A Raccoon has tested positive for rabies in Westmoreland. The raccoon was sent to the New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center for testing on May 27, 2026 and positive results were reported on May 28, 2026. No humans were exposed to the raccoon. A dog was exposed to the raccoon and received a rabies booster vaccination.

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 community locations:

- June 1, 2026 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Annsville Highway Garage
- July 13, 2026 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Garage

Additional rabies vaccination clinics will be offered in 2026.

### 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

For more information on rabies prevention, visit [oneidacountyny.gov/rabies](http://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.