

# RESOLUTION

## ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board of Health  
INITIATED BY



Timothy Banwell, EH Director  
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health  
SUBMITTED BY

March 25, 2013  
DATE DRAFTED

### Rock County Rabies Awareness Week

- 1 WHEREAS, rabies is a disease present in the wildlife of Rock County; and,
- 2
- 3 WHEREAS, once a human or animal contracts rabies, the disease is always fatal; and,
- 4
- 5 WHEREAS, wildlife is an important reservoir of rabies for household pets; and,
- 6
- 7 WHEREAS, animals in Rock County bite approximately 400 persons each year, requiring follow-up
- 8 by law enforcement, health care providers, veterinarians, and the health department; and,
- 9
- 10 WHEREAS, at least four persons were referred to their health care providers for rabies vaccination in
- 11 2012; and,
- 12
- 13 WHEREAS, approximately 10,000 to 20,000 dogs and cats are not vaccinated in Rock County; and,
- 14
- 15 WHEREAS, the control and elimination of rabies in cats and dogs through vaccination remains the
- 16 only cost effective way to protect humans from contracting the disease.
- 17
- 18 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
- 19 on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013 does hereby declare the week of April 21 through
- 20 April 27, 2013 as 'Rock County Rabies Awareness Week', and encourage all cat and dog owners to be
- 21 responsible by having their pets vaccinated for rabies.

13-4A-304

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF HEALTH

Sandra Kraft  
Sandra Kraft, Chair

Louis Peer  
Louis Peer, Vice Chair

Richard Bostwick  
Richard Bostwick

Mike Rundle  
Mike Rundle

Absent  
Dr. Aaron Best, M.D.

Dean Peterson DVM  
Dr. Dean Peterson, DVM

Dr. Connie Winter, DDS  
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS

Judith Wade  
Judith Wade

Absent  
James Rooney

## **Rock County Rabies Awareness Week**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Rabies is a fatal disease that is present in the wildlife of Rock County. While much more common in developing countries, this disease is rare in the United States only because we vaccinate our pet cats and dogs for rabies. Vaccinating our pets creates a zone of safety between the rabies in the wildlife and human populations. While approximately 400 animals bite people each year in Rock County, many more animal bites go undocumented. Only 50% of cats and dogs in the documented animal bites are vaccinated for rabies. Declaring Rock County Rabies Awareness Week will alert the community to this public health concern. Keeping your pet current on their rabies vaccinations is being a responsible pet owner and protects both your family and your pet.

## ROCK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### North Office

P.O. Box 1088  
Janesville, WI 53547-1088  
608-757-5440  
608-758-8423 (fax)  
www.co.rock.wi.us



### South Office

61 Eclipse Center  
Beloit, WI 53511  
608-364-2010  
608-364-2011 (fax)

*Friends of Noah ~ Lois  
Dr. Scott Spaulding*

### Rock County Rabies Awareness Week

*Each muni.  
1- Dog ordinance  
2- Fees*

In association with Rabies Awareness Week, the Rock County Board of Health, Friends of Noah and Badger Veterinarian Hospital are sponsoring a low fee rabies vaccination clinic for cats and dogs at the Rock County Fairgrounds on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 pm. People with unvaccinated cats and dogs are invited to attend. The fee is \$10 cash only. Dogs must be on leashes and cats confined to carriers. A limited number of leashes and carriers will be available. Animal owners are responsible for keeping their pets under control. Vaccinations are good for one year. If an owner can provide proper documentation of a prior rabies vaccination, their dog or cat can receive a three year vaccination. Animal health care will be limited to the rabies vaccination.

If owners are currently working with a local veterinarian for the pet care, they are encouraged to continue that relationship for rabies vaccination and other animal health care.

“Rabies can threaten all members of the family, including pets,” said veterinarian Dr. Steven Servantez. “When untreated, rabies in humans is almost always fatal. However, it is also 100% preventable. This underscores the critical need for community members to take the appropriate steps to prevent and control rabies.”

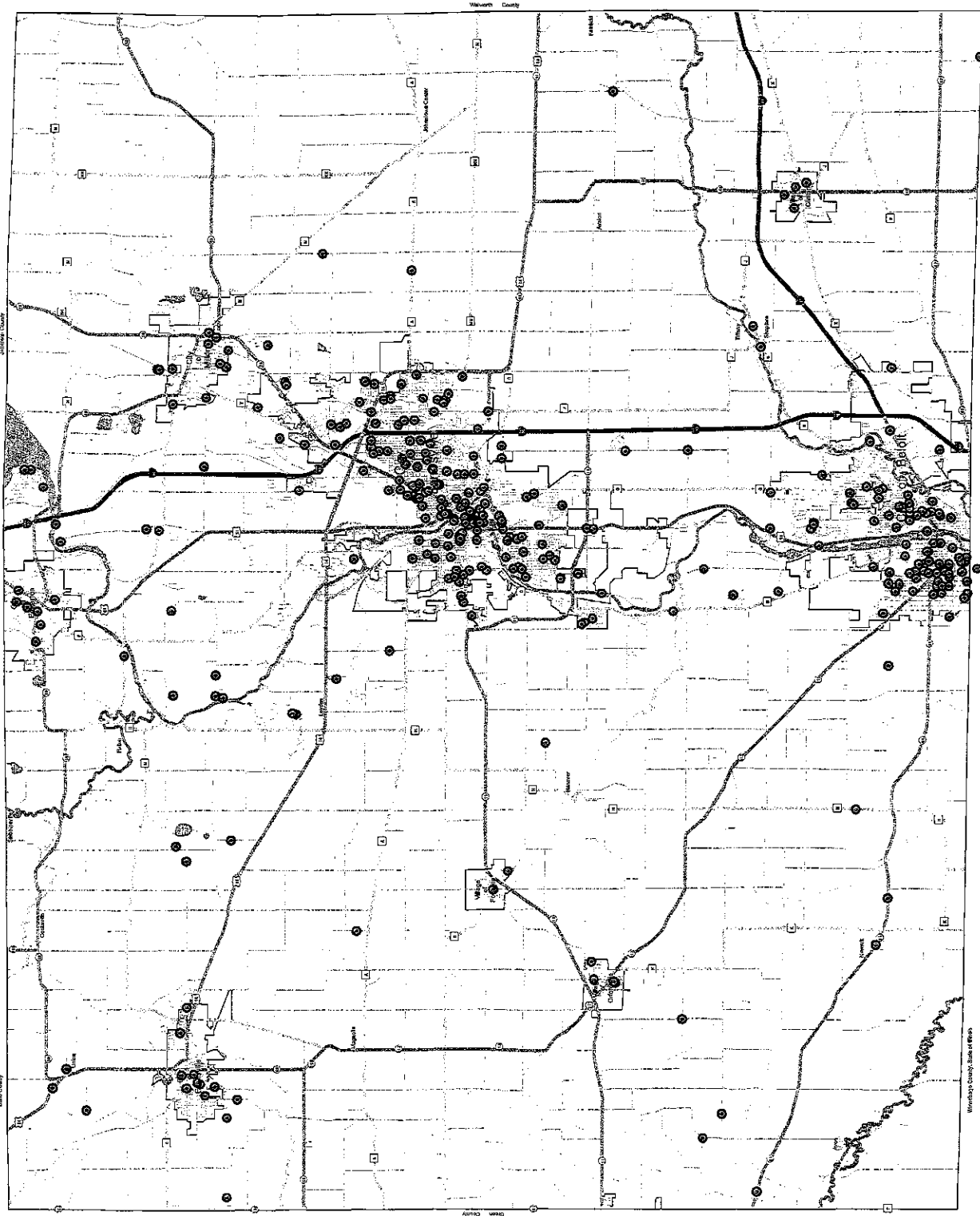
It is estimated that every year in Rock county approximately 400 people are bitten by animals and require attention from health care providers and follow up by the Health Department to verify the risk of rabies exposure. In 2012, at least four (4) people in Rock County were referred to their health care provider for rabies vaccination resulting from animal bites. Since 2000, three (3) people have died of rabies in Wisconsin.

Although the majority of rabies cases occur in wildlife, most humans are exposed to the virus as a result of an encounter with an infected domestic animal. Keeping pets, including cats and dogs, up-to-date on vaccinations, is a primary means of helping to prevent rabies in humans and domestic animals.

“For many people, pets are cherished and loved members of the family,” said Lois Corwin Friends of Noah. “Speaking with a veterinarian about keeping current with vaccination not only helps to make sure they are free from rabies, but also reduces the risk of exposure for all family members.”

Additional information on the rabies vaccination clinic is available from Friends of Noah online at [www.friendsofnoah-wi.org](http://www.friendsofnoah-wi.org). For more information on rabies, go to the Rock County Health Department web page at [www.co.rock.wi.us/health](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/health). For questions about the low cost rabies clinic please call 608-757-5441.

# Reported Animal Bites 2012



- Unvaccinated or Unknown
- Vaccinated

Note: some addresses are approximate



4 Miles



Rock County Health Department  
2013



# ROCK COUNTY RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, April 27, 2013

1:00 pm until 4:00 pm

Rock County Fairgrounds

Protect your animals

Protect your family

*A previous rabies certificate is required for the 3 year vaccine  
Without a certificate the 1 year vaccine will be given.*

**ALL ANIMALS MUST BE AT LEAST 12 WEEKS OF AGE**



Thank you to these generous sponsors:

**CASH ONLY**



**zoetis**



Cost: \$10.00 per animal  
For further information  
Call 608-757-5441  
[friendsofnoah-wi.org](http://friendsofnoah-wi.org)

