



NORTH GEORGIA HEALTH DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fannin County Resident Bitten by Rabid Raccoon

Resident undergoing series of rabies postexposure vaccinations

North Georgia – While preparing to fish on Hot House Creek between Curtis Switch Road and Old Mill Pond Road in Mineral Bluff, Georgia on Sunday, April 7, a local resident was chased and bitten on the ankle by a raccoon.

The animal continued pursuing, so the resident shot and killed it.

The raccoon has now been tested and confirmed as positive for rabies by the Georgia Public Health Laboratory.

The resident began receiving rabies postexposure vaccinations on Sunday.

Postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) consists of a regimen of one dose of immune globulin and four doses of rabies vaccine over a 14-day period and should begin as soon as possible after exposure.

A bite or scratch from any wild mammal should cause concern and be reported to a health care provider and the local environmental health office. Fannin County Environmental Health can be reached at (706) 632-3024. If calling after hours, contact the Georgia Poison Control Center, toll-free, at 1-800-222-1222.

All residents are urged to avoid wild or feral animals and to maintain rabies vaccination in pets. If a pet receives an initial one-year vaccine, it can receive a three-year vaccination the following year.

For more information about rabies and its prevention, log onto the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov/rabies.

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About Us: The North Georgia Health District is part of the Georgia Department of Public Health. One of 18 health districts in the state, the North Georgia Health District (District 1-2) is comprised of six counties: Cherokee, Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens and Whitfield. Many public health programs and services exist throughout the district, all of which are designed to meet the needs of the people of North Georgia. Learn more about us at www.nghd.org, and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).



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Cherokee: Canton (770) 345-7371 / Woodstock (770) 928-0133 Gilmer (706) 635-4363 Pickens (706) 253-2821
Fannin (706) 632-3023 Murray (706) 695-4585 Whitfield (706) 279-9600