ORAL RABIES VACCINATION AREA

NOTICE

Cooperating Federal, State, and county agencies are conducting an oral raccoon rabies baiting project in western Pennsylvania. A vaccine packet is coated or placed inside a fishmeal block, which is very tasty to raccoons. The baits are dropped from low-flying airplanes or helicopters, or by local teams on foot or in vehicles.

This year's operation will run:

August – September 2015

Western Pennsylvania: The area to be baited is in light blue.

What if I find rabies baits?

Baits should be left alone – but intact baits can be moved if they are found where children and pets play. Damaged baits should be bagged and disposed in the trash.

- Wear gloves or use a plastic bag when picking up the baits.
- Toss intact baits into a fencerow, woodlot, ditch, or other raccoon habitat areas.
- Wash your hands after any skin contact with a damaged bait.

What if my pet eats a bait?

- A few baits are not harmful, although eating a lot may cause vomiting or diarrhea.
- Do not risk getting bitten by taking a bait away from your pet.
- Confine your pet for a couple of days, and check the area for more baits.
- If your pet eats a bait, avoid your pet's saliva for 24 hours, and wash skin or wounds that may have been licked.

For information about the oral rabies baiting program, contact:

USDA Wildlife Services: 1-866-487-3297
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture: 1-717-783-9550
Pennsylvania Department of Health Information Line: 1-877-PA Health
Erie County Department of Health: 1-814-451-6700
Allegheny County Department of Health: 1-412-687-2243

For information concerning accidental contact with baits, call 1-877-722-6725.