



Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local Media Outlets
From: Central Michigan District Health Department
RE: CMDHD Promoting World Rabies Day
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CMDHD is Promoting World Rabies Day: September 28

CMDHD is promoting World Rabies Day, which falls on September 28 each year to raise awareness about rabies and bring people together to improve prevention and control efforts worldwide. Rabies is deadly if left untreated in both animals and humans. The best way to protect families, pets, and communities is to keep pets' rabies vaccinations up to date and to follow up with a healthcare professional if there is any rabies exposure.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), rabies is 100% preventable, yet more than 59,000 people die from it around the world each year. Rabies is found worldwide and lives in wild animals. It can be transmitted through a bite to humans and pets. To prevent rabies in pets, make sure their rabies vaccine is current. To keep humans safe, report bites and exposures from wild animals and pets to your local health department within 24 hours. The health department will guide you on rabies treatment and what to watch for in pets.

“There are effective methods to prevent and treat rabies, but greater awareness and understanding of the disease and its risks are necessary to eliminate it globally,” said Sue Leeson, CMDHD Personal Health Supervisor. “Now, more than ever, local and global communities must work together to get rid of this threat. Using vaccination, awareness, and education, we can eliminate this deadly disease for the people and animals we love. World Rabies Day is just one step in the global strategy, and we encourage our communities to take action to eliminate rabies.”

Animal bites are required to be reported to your local health department. Rabies can be fatal, and potential exposures need to be monitored. To learn more information about rabies, visit <https://www.cmdhd.org/rabies>. To report potential exposure to rabies, please call your local CMDHD office at 989-314-7570 or fill out [CMDHD's Animal Bite/Rabies Exposure Form](#).

Please visit us online at www.cmdhd.org.

This article has been brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon. Visit our website at www.cmdhd.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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To request an interview, please visit our website (cmdhd.org) and fill out the [Media Interview Request Form](#).



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