ALLEGHENY COUNTY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Health Department Issues Rabies Precautions for North Versailles Residents

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) has confirmed that a fox brought to one of its facilities last week has tested positive for rabies. The fox was discovered near the 3300 block of Fifth Avenue in North Versailles.

Rabies is a virus transmitted by an animal bite or scratch, and exposures due to a bite or scratch are almost always fatal when left untreated. Any individual who is bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed to saliva from a stray or any other animal, should immediately cleanse the contact area with soap and water, seek emergency medical treatment and call the Allegheny County Health Department (412-687-2243) to report the incident.

All county residents should always avoid stray animals and wildlife, even if they appear healthy, to avoid exposure to rabies. Residents should also have their pets vaccinated, and watch for unusual behavior. If any animal appears to be acting strange or becomes threatening, residents should notify their local animal control service, the police or the Pennsylvania Game Commission immediately.

This is the 11th rabid animal reported in Allegheny County so far in 2018: five (5) bats, four (4) raccoons, one (1) groundhog and one (1) fox.

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