



NEWS RELEASE

Eric D. English - CHIEF OF POLICE

CONTACT PERSON:
Lieutenant M. C. Pecka
Phone: 804-501-4869

FOR RELEASE:
October 2, 2020

Henrico County Confirms Fifth Rabies Case in 2020

On October 1, 2020, Henrico Police Animal Protection responded to the 3000 block of Silverbush Court in the Brookland District for an aggressive raccoon. Officers discovered that a resident had been chased by a raccoon as they exited their home to walk to their car. The resident was able to escape from the animal after it had initially grabbed them by the shoe.

The raccoon was submitted to the State Lab for testing. The raccoon tested positive for rabies. The person involved in the incident has been notified and is consulting with Health Department. There were no additional animal or human exposures reported. This is the fifth confirmed rabies case in Henrico County in 2020.

Henrico Police Animal Protection reminds everyone to be sure to keep their pets' rabies vaccinations current to ensure the safety of their pets and our community. Please report abnormal wildlife behavior and any possible rabies exposures to the Henrico Police Non-Emergency Communications Center at (804) 501-5000.

On Saturday, October 17, 2020 from 9:00 to noon, the Henrico County Police Division will provide rabies vaccines for dogs and cats. Pet owners must register and pay at the cashier's office in the Administration Building before seeing a veterinarian on the first level of the parking deck. Those who plan on attending should wear a protective face mask and maintain social distancing due to COVID-19.

Each vaccine costs \$10.00 and must be paid in cash. Afterwards, you will receive a tag and certificate of inoculation. Residents from any locality are welcome to come. *"This is an opportune time to check on your pets vaccines to make sure they are up to date", says Lt. Matt Pecka.*

For information, call the Animal Protection Unit at (804) 727-8801.

###