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RELEASE)

Herkimer County Public Health received results on Tuesday, May 16th, 2023 from Wadsworth Labs, that a raccoon sent on Monday, May 15th, 2023 from the Town of Fairfield has tested positive for rabies.

The raccoon was killed by family dogs in their enclosure, and sent to Wadsworth labs for testing.

The public can protect itself and family pets from rabies by practicing the following:

1. Vaccinate your pets against rabies
2. Spay or neuter all animals to reduce the number of strays.
3. Do not feed strays or handle unknown animals, wild or domestic.

Remind children and adults not to play with unknown animals (wild or domestic). If a bat is found in a house, and there is a possibility it had contact with a person or an animal in the house, call Public Health and we will make arrangements to have the bat tested, if necessary.

Herkimer County Public Health would like to remind the public to please check your pet's rabies vaccination records to make sure that they are up to date. If they are not up to date, make an appointment with their vet as soon as possible to have them vaccinated against rabies.

Please call Public Health at 315-867-1176, if you have any questions, or concerns. Please visit our web site www.herkimercounty.org .