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**PRESS** )  
) **\*Correction made to the location**  
**RELEASE** )

\* Herkimer County Public Health received results on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, that a woodchuck from the Town of German Flatts (not the Village of Mohawk) has tested positive for rabies.

The rabid woodchuck was killed on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 after it was behaving aggressively and attacked a person and a dog. It was sent to Wadsworth State Labs by Herkimer County Public Health on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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 pets 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 home, 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 pets' 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 or Public Health as soon as possible to have them vaccinated against rabies. *Please call Public Health for an appointment.*

Please call Public Health at 315-867-1176, if you have any questions, or concerns. Please visit our web site [www.herkimercounty.org](http://www.herkimercounty.org).