

11.18.2018

Rabies

Rabies is a severe, and often fatal, viral infection that specifically affects the dog's brain and its central nervous system (CNS). The primary way the rabies virus is transmitted to dogs is through a bite from a disease carrier: foxes, raccoons, skunks, and bats. Infectious virus particles are found in a rabid animal's salivary glands, which means that they easily spread the virus through their saliva.

Is it preventable?

Keeping your dog up to date with vaccinations is not only essential to prevention, it's the law. Avoiding contact with wild animals is also necessary to prevention. You may greatly decrease chances of rabies transmission by walking your dog on a leash and supervising him while he's outdoors.



MCHA offers this vaccine.

Check out details at www.monroehumane.org/minor-medical-clinics

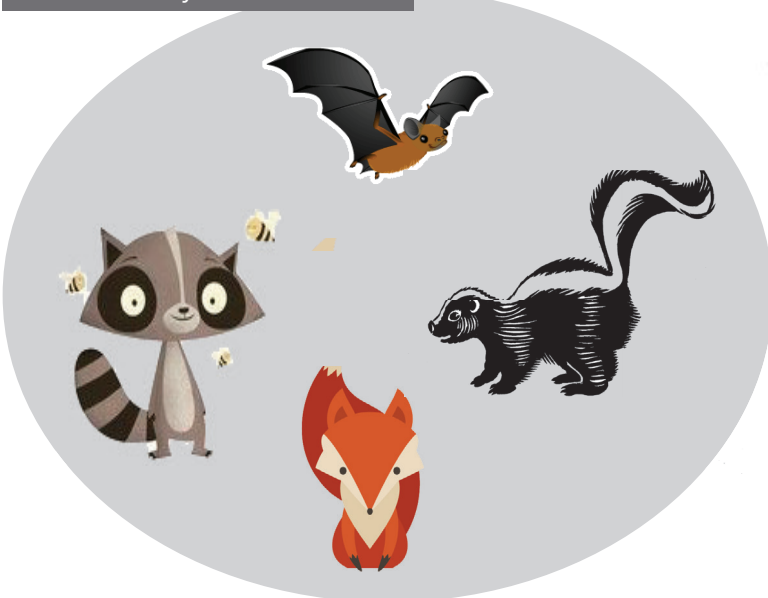
Is it treatable?

This is a fast-moving virus. If it is not treated soon after the symptoms have begun, the prognosis is poor. Therefore, if your dog has been in a fight with another animal, has been bitten or scratched by another animal, or if you have any reason to suspect that your pet has come into contact with a rabid animal (even if your pet has been vaccinated against the virus), you must take your dog to a veterinarian for preventive care immediately.

Is it fatal?

Without early diagnosis and treatment, yes the disease is always fatal to animals that contract the disease.

Bats, foxes, skunks and raccoons carry the rabies virus.



The rabies virus is mandated by the state of Indiana because the virus is fatal and easily communicable to humans.