



Rabies is a viral infection of the central nervous system. The disease is transmitted to humans from animals (such as dogs, cats, or ferrets) commonly by a bite from an infected animal that has the virus in its saliva. Symptoms of rabies in an animal include: a loss of appetite, erratic behavior, unusual aggression, dilated pupils, and constant growling or aggressive noises. For a human, rabies is almost always fatal if treatment is not administered prior to the onset of symptoms. Once the rabies virus reaches the central nervous system and symptoms begin to show, the infection is virtually untreatable and usually death occurs within days.



PET LICENSING

All domesticated animals (dogs, cats, potbellied pigs, and ferrets) are required by City ordinance to be licensed. Dogs, cats and ferrets are required to be vaccinated against rabies. A new license, which **expires December 31st**, must be purchased each calendar year. Any license renewed after January 31st will be assessed a \$10 late fee (new animals licensed within 30 days are exempt from a late fee).

Licenses may be purchased at either the Wisconsin Humane Society Racine Campus located at 2706 Chicory Road Racine or the City of Racine Environmental Health Division located at 730 Washington Avenue Racine Room 1.

Isolation facilities in Racine County:

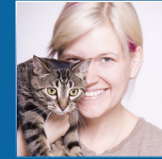
[Angelcare Animal Hospital](#): 262-886-3337

[Caledonia Veterinary Clinic](#): 262-681-8000

[For Pets' Sake Veterinary Clinic](#): 262-884-8838

[North Shore Animal Hospital](#): 262-639-7500

City of Racine Health Department



**IF YOUR DOG OR CAT
BITES SOMEONE**



City of Racine Health Department
730 Washington Avenue • Racine, WI 53403
Ph: 262-636-9203 • Fax: 262-636-9165
www.cityofracine.org/Health

ANIMAL BITE REPORTING AND QUARANTINE PROCEDURE

VACCINATED ANIMALS

All animal bites are required to be reported to the City of Racine Police Department at 262-886-2300.

An Officer will respond and complete an animal bite report. The officer will order the animal quarantined for a period of at least 10 days after the bite. The ten-day quarantine period ensures that the dog or cat can be observed for signs of rabies.

Vaccinated Animals (proven by a valid rabies certificate) may be quarantined on the premises of the owner if the animal is able to be kept in strict confinement to ensure that it cannot run away, be injured or bite again. Dogs may only be allowed outside for brief periods to urinate or defecate and must be under the control of an adult and kept on a leash. If adequate quarantine is not maintained an officer or health department personnel may order a vaccinated animal quarantined at an isolation facility at the owner's expense.

Examination Requirements after a Bite Incident

During the 10 day quarantine the animal must be examined twice by a veterinarian. This is the only time the animal may leave the owner's premises. The first exam must take place within 24 hours of the bite or the next business day and the final exam must take place on the 10th day of confinement before release from quarantine. The signed bite report form must be returned to the Health Department or faxed to 262-636-9165.

If your animal displays signs of illness or a change in behavior, it is critical that you immediately notify your veterinarian and the Health Department at 262-636-9203.

Failure to follow quarantine or examination requirements may result in your animal being seized or impounded and a citation and fine being issued.

If your dog or cat is not licensed, you must purchase a license for your animal at this time.

UNVACCINATED ANIMALS

All animal bites are required to be reported to the City of Racine Police Department at 262-886-2300.

An officer will respond and complete an animal bite report. The officer will order the animal quarantined for a period of at least 10 days after the bite. Unvaccinated animals **must be** delivered to an isolation facility within 24 hours after the quarantine order is issued. Rabies vaccinations are NOT to be given during the quarantine period. The ten-day quarantine period ensures that the dog or cat can be observed for signs of rabies.

During the 10 day quarantine the animal must be examined twice by a veterinarian. The first exam must take place within 24 hours of the bite or the next business day and the final exam must take place on the 10th day of confinement before release from quarantine. The signed bite report form must be returned to the Health Department or faxed to 262-636-9165. Animals must be vaccinated and currently licensed prior to release from quarantine.

Failure to follow quarantine or examination requirements may result in your animal being seized or impounded at your expense and a citation and fine being issued.

