

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For More Information:
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Rabid Bobcat Confirmed in Ruther Glen, Caroline County

(Bowling Green, Va.) The Caroline County Health Department (CCHD) has received confirmation that a bobcat collected last weekend in the Bear Lane area of Ruther Glen in Caroline County has tested positive for rabies.

According to Dr. Brooke Rossheim, Health Director of the Rappahannock Area Health District, on Sunday, April 24, 2011, at approximately 6 p.m., a resident spotted a strange-acting bobcat attempting to jump a fence into the yard. The resident killed the bobcat, which was submitted by the health department for rabies testing.

No known human or animal exposures have been reported involving this bobcat. However, if anyone or anyone's pets have had contact with the bobcat, please contact the Caroline County Environmental Health Office at 804-633-6237, extension 215, your physician or your veterinarian.

The Health Department would like to take this opportunity to remind pet owners to keep pets up to date on their rabies vaccinations. This is important to protect yourself, your family, your community and your pet from the rabies virus. The department also urges residents not to approach or touch wild animals.

For more information concerning rabies, please visit the Virginia Department of Health's Rabies Control and Prevention website at www.vdh.virginia.gov/epi/rabies.

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