



Stratford-Perth Humane Society
Media Release
September 28, 2017

Humane Society Takes Action to Prevent Rabies

World Rabies Day, A Reminder To Vaccinate

Stratford-Perth, Ontario, Canada, Date – Today is World Rabies Day and the Stratford-Perth Humane Society in partnership with the Perth District Health Unit are encouraging animal owners to keep their communities rabies-free by having their animals vaccinated against the disease.

Rabies is a disease that we all need to be aware of. It is a viral disease that attacks the central nervous system of warm-blooded mammals. The virus is carried in the saliva of infected mammals and can spread to humans and their animals through a bite, scratch, cut or contact with the moist tissues of the mouth, nose and eyes.

Last year 288 confirmed cases of rabies in animals were found in Ontario. The threat is growing with 368 cases this year already. In Stratford-Perth County, 4 confirmed cases have been reported this year alone. According to Dr. LeeAnn Sealey of AWASCO, "Growing up in the area and practicing veterinarian medicine in the area, I understand the importance of vaccinating for rabies as it's always been a significant threat in our area."

Although the last case of human rabies in Canada was in 2014, it is a fatal disease. Dog bites are responsible for 99% of all cases of rabies affecting humans. Keeping dogs and cats vaccinated is a simple and effective way to stop the spread of rabies. In Ontario, **it's the law**.

The Stratford-Perth Humane Society and the Perth District Health Unit have teamed up to provide low-cost rabies vaccination and microchip clinics for cats and dogs in October. The clinics are scheduled for:

Dates:	Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
	Saturday, October 14, 2017 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Location:	Gloria's Place, SPHS, 125 Griffith Road, Stratford, ON
Cost:	\$20 Vaccination, \$20 Microchip, \$30 Both
Note:	First come, first serve and wait times are to be expected

Cats and dogs must be over 3-months of age. Dogs must be leashed and cats must be in a carrier. It is also recommended that pet owners check with their veterinarian before attending to make sure their animal is due for a rabies vaccine. For more information about these clinics, call the SPHS at 519-273-6600 extension 247.

Contact:

Dr. LeeAnn Sealey

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The Stratford-Perth Humane Society is part of the Animal Welfare Agency South Central Ontario and is a leader in Animal Welfare in our communities, focusing on what is in the best interest of the pets. We do this through community education, advocacy, care, and compliance. We are a registered charity and receive no government funding for our programs. Charitable BIN 11898 3550 RR0001

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