

# TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

2207 Lawrence Rd.  
Lawrence Township, New Jersey 08648  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
ANIMAL CONTROL  
(609) 844-7092

February 10, 2021

## Public Health Advisory

Within the last week, the Lawrence Township Health Department was notified of a raccoon on **Cold Soil Rd** in Lawrence Township. The raccoon was in contact with neighborhood pets, and it was therefore tested by the New Jersey State Health Department Laboratory and determined to be positive for rabies.

**It is important for public health reasons to determine if anyone was in contact with this raccoon. Please call the Lawrence Township Animal Control Officer at 844-7092 if you know of any human or domestic pet that may have been in contact with this raccoon in the past fourteen days.**

Rabid animals are usually both vicious and aggressive (“furious” rabies) or act dazed and are partially or totally paralyzed (“dumb” rabies). They often have trouble walking and may appear to be “drunk.” **People should stay away from all wild and stray domestic animals, which are aggressive or appear to be sick.** Some wild animals, such as raccoons, raccoons, and groundhogs, may be able to infect people even though they appear to be normal, and these animals should be avoided at all times.

Because rabies has been identified in the area, it is important to remind all residents of the requirement and public health importance in vaccinating and licensing your cats and dogs. Please check your pet’s records to verify their rabies vaccination is current.

Please contact the Lawrence Township Animal Control Officer at 844-7092, if you have any additional questions or concerns.  
If further assistance is required, the following may also be contacted:

CONTACT: Carol Chamberlain  
Health Officer  
844-7089

