

## Rabies Symptoms

In humans, early symptoms are non-specific; flu-like symptoms can be experienced.

### Later Symptoms Include

Insomnia

Hallucinations

Anxiety

Agitation

Confusion

Hyper-Salivation

Paralysis

Difficulty Swallowing

Excitation

Fear of Water

Death usually occurs within days of the onset of the symptoms.

### Animal Symptoms Include

Abnormal Behavior

Difficulty Walking

Staggering

Overly Friendly

Appearing Restless

Choking

Being Aggressive

## Resources for Additional Information



[cdc.gov/rabies](http://cdc.gov/rabies)



World Health Organization

[who.int/rabies/en](http://who.int/rabies/en)

GeorgiaPoisonCenter

1-800-222-1222

[georgiapoisoncenter.org/rabies](http://georgiapoisoncenter.org/rabies)



Georgia Department of Public Health

Northwest Health District

[nwgapublichealth.org/environmental-health/rabies/](http://nwgapublichealth.org/environmental-health/rabies/)

### Contact Information

#### Bartow County

100 Zena Drive SE  
Cartersville, GA 30120  
Telephone: (770) 387-2614

#### Catoosa County

182 Tiger Trail  
Ringgold, GA 30736  
Telephone: (706) 406-2030

#### Chattooga County

60 Farrar Drive  
Summerville, GA 30747  
Telephone: (706) 857-3377

#### Dade County

71 Case Ave. Ste H-100  
Trenton, GA 30752  
Telephone: (706)-657-4213

#### Floyd County

16 East 12th Street  
Rome, GA 30161  
Telephone: (706) 295-6316

#### Gordon County

310 N. River Street  
Calhoun, GA 30701  
Telephone: (706) 624-1440

#### Haralson County

133 Buchanan Bypass  
Buchanan, GA 30113  
Telephone: (770) 646-4301

#### Paulding County

240 Constitution Blvd. Ste 1A  
Dallas, GA 30132  
Telephone: (770) 443-7877

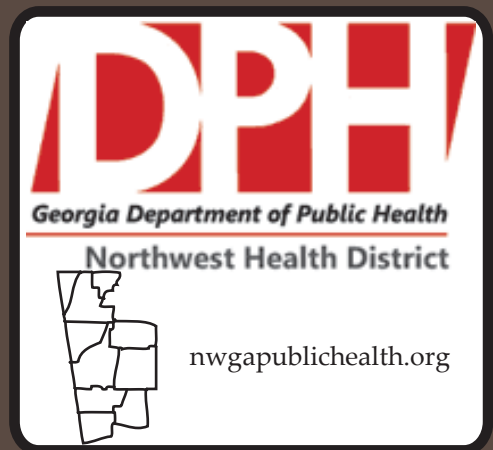
#### Polk County

125 East Ware Street  
Cedartown, GA 30125  
Telephone: (770) 749-2253

#### Walker County

101 Napier Street  
LaFayette, GA 30728  
Telephone: (706) 639-2574

## Northwest Georgia Public Health



Inform. Prevent. Protect.

# Rabies

is a **viral infection** of the central nervous system, which ultimately causes disease and death.



In the United States, rabies occurs primarily in **wild animals**, namely coyotes, skunks, raccoons, foxes, and several species of insectivorous bats.

The **rabies virus** is transmitted in the saliva of infected mammals.

Exposure can occur in two ways.

### Bite Exposure

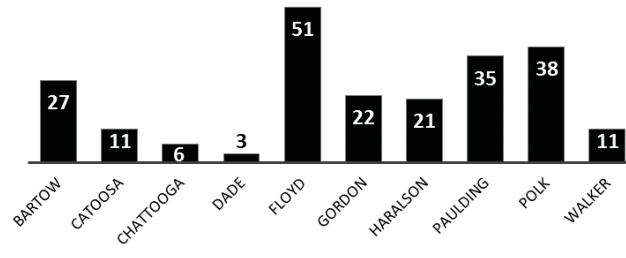
Any break of the skin by teeth. This is the most common.

### Non-Bite Exposure

Contamination of open wounds, mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth), or scratches.



**RABID ANIMAL CASES**  
for NW GA District, 2004-2016



## What To Do If Exposed



Thoroughly clean any wounds immediately with soap and water to reduce the risk of rabies transmission and bacterial infection.



Seek medical treatment, if necessary.



Contact Georgia Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222 for rabies risk assessment.



Follow-up with your local health department.

## Prevention Tips

Pets, including cats, ferrets, and dogs, should be vaccinated regularly.



Keep pets confined or under direct supervision.



Spay or neuter pets to reduce unwanted offspring.



Keep garbage cans and pet food covered or inside of home.



Call animal control to remove all stray animals from your neighborhood.



Do not keep wild animals like raccoons, skunks, foxes, coyotes, and wolves as pets.



Teach children not to go near, tease, or play with wild animals or strange dogs and cats.

