



NOTICE

July 3, 2019

TO: Visitors/Residents near Kingston Road and Lakeshore Drive in Myrtle Beach, SC

FROM: Ted Ambrose, Area Director
Environmental Affairs Conway and Myrtle Beach Office
Bureau of Environmental Health Services

SUBJECT: RABID RACCOONS

On June 12, 2019 and July 2, 2019, raccoons in your area **tested POSITIVE for the rabies virus.** The rabid raccoons are now deceased.

Due to the possibility of the spread of rabies, DHEC urges you to use caution when dealing with wild or stray animals. If you have reason to believe that you, your family members, or your pets have come into contact with these raccoons or another animal that potentially has rabies, **please call DHEC's Environmental Affairs Conway office at (843) 915-8801 or the Myrtle Beach office at (843) 238-4378 during normal business hours (M-F, 8:30-5:00).**

If your pet appears to have been bitten or scratched by another animal or is found with wounds of unknown origin, please consider that your pet could have been exposed to rabies and contact the Conway or the Myrtle Beach office. This is especially important as rabies has been confirmed in your area. Use caution when handling injured pets and avoid contact with wounds and saliva. Take any injured pet to a veterinarian so the wounds can be treated and rabies vaccination can be discussed.

Please remember that rabies vaccinations for pets are required by the South Carolina Rabies Control Act. If your pet does not have a current rabies vaccination, please contact a veterinarian as soon as possible for an appointment. For more information on rabies in South Carolina, visit our website: <https://www.scdhec.gov/rabies>.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to reduce the spread of rabies in your community.