

CHAPTER 1230

Rabies Control

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CROSS REFERENCES

Rabies quarantine - see ORC 955.26 & 955.261
Reimbursement for rabies bites - see ORC 955.42
Report of bite of dog or other animal - see OAC 3701-3-28
Biting animal to be confined; veterinarian to report - see OAC 3701-3-29
Report of suspected rabid animal - see OAC 3701-3-30
Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines, National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians
General provisions - see EHC 210

EHC Environmental Health Code **ORC** Ohio Revised Code **OAC** Ohio Administrative Code

1230.01 VACCINATION OF DOGS AND CATS.

- (a) No person who owns a dog or cat in the Health District shall fail to vaccinate the dog or cat against rabies within 30 days after the dog or cat has reached the age of 3 months.
- (b) Every dog or cat initially vaccinated must be revaccinated one year later and thereafter at not more than 36-month intervals or other appropriate intervals based on the type of vaccine being used, the nature of the rabies in the community, or the current Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines prepared by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians.
- (c) Unvaccinated dogs and cats acquired or moved into the Health District must be vaccinated within 30 days after purchase or arrival unless under 3 months of age.
- (d) All dogs or cats entering the Health District for shows, field trials, hunting or any other purpose shall be properly vaccinated and shall be accompanied by their vaccination certificates.
- (e) All vaccines must be administered by a licensed veterinarian or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

2.02 VACCINATION RECORD.

- (a) Each veterinarian who vaccinates or revaccinates a dog or cat against rabies shall complete a certificate of rabies vaccination. The certificate shall include the following:

- 1) Description of dog or cat.
- 2) Place where dog or cat is kept or harbored.
- 3) Name and address of owner, keeper, or harborer.
- 4) Date of vaccination or revaccination.
- 5) Type of rabies vaccine administered.
- 6) Rabies vaccination tag number.
- 7) Any other information that may be pertinent or required by the Health Commissioner.
- 8) Veterinarian's name and address.

(b) The veterinarian shall, without delay, distribute a copy of the certificate to the owner and to the Summit County Dog Warden's office. A copy shall be retained by the veterinarian during the interval between vaccinations.

1230.03 VACCINATION TAG.

Whoever vaccinates or revaccinates a dog or cat shall issue a durable rabies vaccination tag. The rabies vaccination tag should conform in shape and color to the recommendation of the Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines issued by the National Association of Public Health Veterinarians. The rabies vaccination tag shall be securely fastened to the collar or harness of the dog or cat.

1230.04 MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS THAT BITE HUMANS.

- (a) Whoever owns, keeps or harbors a dog or cat within the Health District that has bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus shall confine that animal to the premises of such owner, keeper or harborer, or in a suitable pound or kennel for a period of 10 days from date of injury. During the 10-day confinement, the dog or cat may be permitted to leave the premises of its owner, keeper or harborer if it is under leash or under the control of a responsible person.
- (b) If the dog or cat exhibits any illness suggestive of rabies during the 10-day confinement, it is to be evaluated by a veterinarian and reported to the Summit County Health Department.
- (c) Any stray or unwanted dog or cat that has bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus shall be confined for 10 days from date of injury or euthanized immediately and the head removed by a veterinarian or the Summit County Dog Warden and shipped under refrigeration to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratory for examination.

(d) Other carnivorous mammals, bats, exotic animals and domestic animals that have bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus should be euthanized and the head or brain submitted to the State Health Department Laboratory for rabies examination. If the owner of such an animal refuses to do this, the Health Department may opt to quarantine the animal for a period to be determined by the Health Commissioner. If the animal should die during the quarantine period, the head must be submitted for rabies examination.

1230.05 POST-EXPOSURE MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS.

- (a) Unvaccinated dogs, cats and other animals which are bitten by a rabid animal should be euthanized immediately. If the owner, keeper, or harbinger is unwilling to have this done, the dog, cat or other animal must be placed in strict quarantine for 6 months or for a length of time determined by the Health Commissioner. Dogs and cats must be vaccinated before being released from quarantine.
- (b) Vaccinated dogs or cats, and other animals which are bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed to the rabies virus by a rabid animal should be revaccinated immediately and placed in quarantine for 3 months.

1230.06 INFORMATION OF BITING ANIMALS TO BE SUBMITTED.

No owner, keeper, or harbinger of a dog, cat or other animal within the General Health District that has bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus shall fail, upon notification by the Health Commissioner or his/her authorized representative, either in writing or verbally, to submit all information required by the Health Department within a forty-eight (48) hour period following such notification.

1230.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Environmental Health Code shall be in violation of ORC 3707.48, 3709.20, 3709.21 or 3709.22, and subject to penalties provided in ORC 3707.99 and 3709.99.

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