



**PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR
RABIES PROGRAM TEAM AND ALL PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTORS**

Tips for Submitting a Rabies Specimen Collection Request

Collection Procedure Dependant on Animal's Weight

There are three different weight categories that determine the type of sample required by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

1. Animals weighing **less than 1lb** - the RVT will package the entire body and ship it to the CFIA
2. Animals weighing **between 1lb and 220lbs** - the RVT will remove the head, package it and ship it to the CFIA
3. Animals weighing **more than 220lbs** - the RVT will remove the brain (and part of the brain stem), package it and ship it to the CFIA

A common question that the RRP receives for samples in which the entire head is sent to the CFIA laboratory is:

Can the head be returned to the owner for burial/cremation?

Due to biosecurity safety concerns, once the sample is received by the CFIA laboratory it cannot be returned to the owner. The CFIA will send all samples to their own onsite cremation service.

Why are there four weight options to choose from on the "Request for Specimen Collection" form if the CFIA only has three?

The 2nd category, 1lb-220lbs, is a large range. Due to the physical demands and increased time it takes to perform the decapitation on an animal over 80lbs compared to 2lbs, the RRP divided this category into two for the RVTs.

RVTs will choose what sample types they wish to collect based on the following options:

1. Small = less than 1lb
2. Medium A = 1lb - 79lbs
3. Medium B = 80lbs - 220lbs
4. Large = more than 220lbs

RVTs are not required to collect all four sizes; therefore, it is important that the correct weight category is selected on the request form to ensure we are sending out the right person.

Looking For Tips From Public Health Inspectors

Do you have a great tip that you discovered while managing a rabies submission case that has made your job easier or more efficient? If so, we want to hear about them.

We would like to feature your ideas in our "Tips" section of The Rabies Insider.

Please send your favourite tips to rrp@oavt.org.



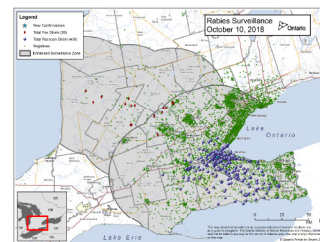
MNRF Report on Rabies in Ontario

The MNRF is reporting on their results of wildlife testing (with no human/animal exposure), surveillance and bait drops. The MNRF does not test bats. As of October 10th, 2018 the MNRF is reporting a total of **436 cases of raccoon strain** and **20 cases of fox strain** rabies in Ontario since the outbreak began in December 2015.

In 2018, the MNRF has tested over 2800 animals and distributed more than 1.3 million baits.

The raccoon strain cases are distributed amongst the following Public Health Units:

- Hamilton: 204 raccoons, 100 skunks, 1 fox, 2 cats



Larger image here

- Haldimand-Norfolk: 29 raccoons, 2 skunks, 1 llama
- Niagara: 37 raccoons, 9 skunks
- Brant: 24 raccoons, 1 skunk
- Halton: 17 raccoons, 9 skunks

The fox strain cases are distributed amongst the following Public Health Units:

- Perth: 6 cows, 2 skunks
- Huron: 1 cow, 3 skunks
- Waterloo: 1 fox, 5 skunks
- Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph: 2 skunk

The MNRF has also released their most recent issue of the [Rabies Reporter](#) (January -June 2017) and the [3rd quarter tables and maps](#) (July-September 2017).

For more information on rabies you can visit the following sites:

1. [OMNRF: Rabies in Wildlife](#)
2. [OMAFRA: Rabies in Ontario](#)
3. [OAVT RRP Rabies Public Portal](#)
4. [OAVT RRP Rabies Resources](#)

Rabies Response Program Resources

Are you looking for more information on rabies? If so, then make sure you check out the RRP's "Rabies Resources" [website](#).



There you will find the following:

1. Digital promotional material that can be used to help educate the public.
 2. The [OAVT RRP World Rabies Day Shop](#) where you can purchase apparel to promote the importance of vaccinating pets for rabies.
 3. Rabies Virus Technical Information
 4. Pet Owner information
 5. Rabies Prevention
 6. Wildlife Information
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CFIA Report on Rabies in Canada

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has a website with statistics on all rabies cases in Canada dating back to 1998. They update their website on the 28th day of each month.

Year to date (August) there has been a total of **2076** animals submitted for rabies testing across the country, including **1159** which were submitted by Ontario. Of these cases, **125** were positive for rabies, including **68** that were from Ontario.

For more information on rabies in Canada, please visit the [CFIA website](#).

ARCHIVED ISSUES OF THE RABIES INSIDER CAN BE FOUND ON THE RRP WEBSITE IN THE [PUBLIC HEALTH PORTAL](#).



www.oavtrrp.org

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