CECIL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERS LOW-COST RABIES VACCINATION CLINICS

Elkton, MD [April 20, 2015] -- The Cecil County Health Department is sponsoring a series of rabies vaccination clinics to protect dogs, cats, or ferrets from this deadly virus.

Clinics will be held in Elkton or Port Deposit. Cost is $7 per animal. Please bring exact change. Cats and ferrets must be in a pet carrier. Dogs must be on a leash. Animals must be at least 12 weeks of age to receive a rabies vaccination.

Dates and Location:

May 2
Water Witch Fire Company
Tome Highway, Port Deposit

May 9
Cecil County Health Department
401 Bow Street, Elkton

October 3
Cecil County Health Department
401 Bow Street, Elkton

Time:

9 – 10 a.m.       Cats only
10 a.m. – noon   Dogs, Cats and Ferrets
Rabies is a viral disease of warm-blooded animals that is almost always fatal once symptoms appear. In Maryland, rabies is most frequently found in wildlife, most commonly raccoons, foxes, skunks, and bats. Domestic animals, including livestock, are also at risk, and cats are the most frequently identified rabid domestic animal.

Maryland State law requires all dogs, cats and ferrets four months of age and older to be vaccinated against rabies. The length of vaccine effectiveness varies depending on the vaccine used, the species and the age of the animal.

In addition to regular vaccination of dogs, cats and ferrets, there are more ways to help prevent rabies:

- Do not let pets roam free;
- Enjoy wildlife from a distance;
- Teach children to stay away from animals they don’t know;
- Cover garbage cans securely and do not leave pet food outside;
- Prevent bats from entering your home;
- Report bites and other animal exposures to the Health Department, Cecil County animal control, or the police.

For more information, contact the Cecil County Health Department, Environment Health Services Division at 1-410-996-5160.

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In partnership with the community, the **Cecil County Health Department** strives to improve the health of Cecil County and its residents by providing leadership to find solutions to our health problems through assessment, policy development and assurance of quality health services and education.