

May 30, 2019

Saturday rabies clinics planned in June for dogs, cats and ferrets

MOBILE, Ala. — The Mobile County Health Department provides low cost rabies shots for dogs, cats and ferrets during weekend clinics that are good for one year. Here is a list of the rabies clinics planned for Saturdays during June in Mobile County:

- June 8, 1:30 to 4 p.m., Pet Supplies Plus, 803 Hillcrest Road in Mobile
- June 15, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., City of Mobile Animal Shelter, 855 Owens Street
- June 22, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Glamour Paws, 10005 Dauphin Island Parkway in Theodore
- June 29, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Kuddles-N-Kisses, 11120 Meadow Lark Road in Grand Bay

The cost of the rabies vaccine per pet is \$8 at Pet Supplies Plus. The cost of the rabies vaccine per pet is \$10 at City of Mobile Animal Shelter, Glamour Paws and Kuddles-N-Kisses. All rabies shots are payable in cash.

Each month, MCHD’s Rabies Officer provides residents with low-cost vaccines for their pet dogs, cats and ferrets at a variety of locations. The state of Alabama tasks local health departments with providing affordable rabies vaccinations to pet owners. MCHD’s Rabies Officer vaccinated 310 household pets during May.

Rabies is a virus that attacks the central nervous system. It is transmitted from infected mammals to humans and is fatal once symptoms appear. Symptoms of rabies include unusual behavior, irritability, headache, fever, inability to eat or drink, balance problems, circling, seizures, coma, and, finally, death. All warm-blooded mammals, including humans, are susceptible to rabies.

Exposure to rabies may be minimized by eliminating all stray cats and dogs; having pet dogs, cats and ferrets vaccinated; staying away from wild animals, especially those acting abnormally; and not keeping exotic or wild animals as pets, health officials said.

What happens if an animal is displaying symptoms? Under state law, the owners are required to quarantine their animal for 10 days. The quarantine period is necessary for observation of any clinical signs of rabies infection in the animal.

In 2018, the Mobile County Health Department investigated 579 animal bite cases. To learn more about our program, visit <http://mchd.org>, go to “Services,” find “Disease Control” and go to “Rabies Control.”

A Rabies Quarantine Fact Sheet is available through the Alabama Department of Public Health at www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/RabiesQuarantineFactSheet.pdf.