

MAINE PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION



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###PHINFO###

TO: Animal Care, Epidemiologists, HETL, Maine Municipal Offices, City and County Health Departments, Maine Law Enforcement- Local PD, State Police Required

FROM: Dr. Sheila Pinette, Public Health Director
Dr. Stephen Sears, State Epidemiologist

SUBJECT: Maine Animal Rabies 1st Quarter Update – January 1-March 31, 2014

DATE: 4/16/2014

TIME:

PAGES: 3

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Animal Rabies 1st Quarterly Update January 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

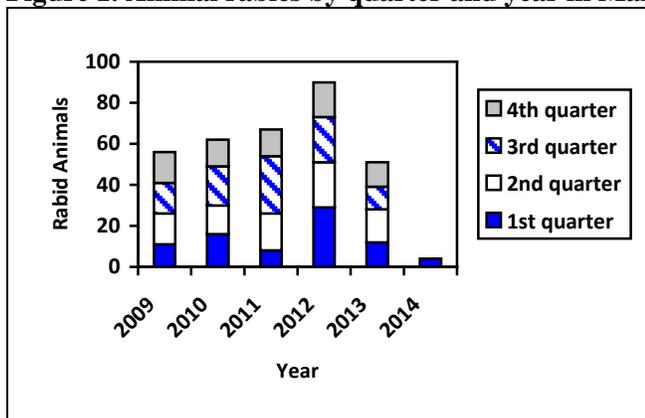
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) provides quarterly updates on animal rabies to veterinarians and other animal health professionals. This update is for the first quarter of 2014 (Jan. 1-Mar. 31).

Results are based on animals submitted and tested at the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) following exposure to a human or domestic animal. USDA APHIS Wildlife Services performs supplemental surveillance for rabid animals with no human or domestic animal exposure (Table 1). The number of rabid animals statewide may not be representative of the true incidence of animal rabies in Maine. See HETL's website for regularly updated counts at: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/health-and-environmental-testing/rabies/rabies2014.htm>. Figures 1 and 2 show additional animal rabies data for Maine.

Table 1. Animals positive for rabies virus by county, town and species in Maine – HETL and USDA, 2014

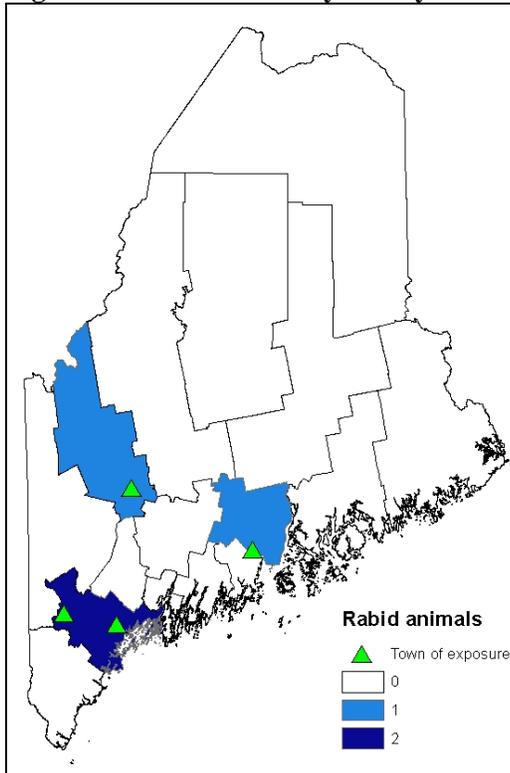
County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Jan 1–Mar 31)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1-Mar 31)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other		
Androscoggin						0	0
Aroostook						0	0
Cumberland						2	2
	N. Yarmouth		1				
	Sebago		1				
Franklin						1	1
	Farmington			1			
Hancock						0	0
Kennebec						0	0
Knox						0	0
Lincoln						0	0
Oxford						0	0
Penobscot						0	0
Piscataquis						0	0
Sagadahoc						0	0
Somerset						0	0
Waldo						1	1
	Lincolnville		1				
Washington						0	0
York						0	0
Species Total			3	1			
Maine Total						4	4

Figure 1. Animal rabies by quarter and year in Maine, 2009-2014



**Animal Rabies 1st Quarterly Update
January 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014**

Figure 2. Animal rabies by county in Maine, January 1-March 31, 2014 (N=4)



Rabies Management:

- Rabies is spread when the virus is introduced into bite wounds, open cuts in skin, or onto mucous membranes from an infected animal's saliva or neural (brain or spinal cord) tissue.
- Refer to the updated [Maine Rabies Management Guidelines 2012, 3rd Edition](#) to assess exposures.
- Report possible human or domestic animal exposures to Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821.
- Prompt recognition and reporting of exposures to medical professionals, public health, game wardens, and local animal control officers is critical to ensure appropriate medical and veterinary management.
- For more information, see the Maine CDC rabies website at www.mainepublichealth.gov/rabies.