



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# NOTICE

## ORAL RABIES VACCINATION AREA

The Wildlife Services (WS) program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is working with the New York State Department of Health & the Erie County Department of Health to protect people and pets from the threat of rabies in your area.

WS is distributing oral rabies vaccine (ORV) baits to vaccinate raccoons, skunks, foxes, and coyotes to help stop the spread of rabies in the local wildlife population. ORV baits are about the size of a matchbox and are coated with fishmeal flavoring or a sweet vanilla wax.

### ORV BAITES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY:

- 5 fixed-wing airplanes in rural areas
- 2 helicopters in suburban and open areas of the City of Buffalo
- By vehicle in more densely populated areas in Buffalo and surrounding suburbs

## ORV BAITES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN AUGUST 18<sup>th</sup>—SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2016



## What if I find Rabies Baits?

If you find ORV baits, **leave them alone**, unless they are where children or pets play.

To move ORV baits safely, you should:

**Wear gloves** or use a paper towel or plastic bag when picking up the baits.

Toss intact baits into a **wooded area** or other raccoon habitat.

**Bag and dispose** of any damaged baits in the trash.

Take precautions by practicing **proper hygiene** – wash with soap and water any skin or wounds that may have come into contact with ORV baits, especially if the bait was damaged.

## What if My Pet Eats the Bait?

**Don't Panic!** A few baits are not harmful, though eating a large number may cause an upset stomach.

Do not risk getting bitten or being exposed to the vaccine by taking a bait away from your pet.

Check the area for more bait and relocate any remaining bait to a wooded area.

## Questions About ORV or Baits You Have Found?

Call the NY State Department of Health Rabies Information Line: **888- 574-6656**

Call the Erie County Department of Health: **716-961-6800**