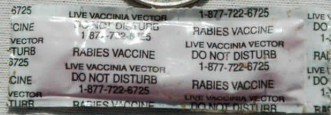


vaccine package with fishmeal scented coating



liquid vaccine package

# HEALTH NOTICE:

## Distribution of Oral Rabies Vaccine for Raccoons in Staten Island

Between **Monday, August 17, 2015** and **Wednesday, August 19, 2015**, workers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Cornell University will use a small helicopter to airdrop baits containing oral rabies vaccine (also called ORV), in **Staten Island**. This activity will vaccinate raccoons against rabies and does not pose serious health risks for people or pets. Though this plan was initiated and is being carried out by the USDA and Cornell, the City has allowed ORV use on public properties. If you would like more information about this program, call 311.

### How does the airdrop work?

- Baits will be dropped only during daytime hours (8 a.m. to no later than 8 p.m.) from a single helicopter flying at around 500 feet.
- Bait packets will be distributed in **parks, wooded areas and other uninhabited spaces**. Baits will **not** intentionally be dropped in residential areas or other dense spaces (roadways, parking lots, open fields). (See shaded areas of map for general distribution.)

### How do the bait packets work?

- Each bait contains ORV liquid in a small package the size of a ketchup packet. The packet is coated with a brown fishmeal scented coating to attract raccoons and deter people.
- Vaccinating raccoons using ORV can help stop the spread of rabies and is used in many other U.S. locations.

### What if I find bait packets?

- If you find bait packets, avoid touching them. Leave them alone, or wear gloves to toss them into brushy or forested areas or throw them away. Touching the liquid inside the packets can cause a rash. Anyone who handles bait should wash his or her hands with warm, soapy water.
- Eating the bait is not harmful to pets and cannot cause rabies. If pets find it, do not try to take it away from them since you risk being bitten or touching the vaccine. (Note: The bait will not vaccinate your pet.)
- The unpleasant odor should discourage children and adults from handling bait, but in the unlikely event that someone touches the vaccine, talk to a doctor, or call the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

