

ADVISORY



RABIES : www.ontario.ca/page/rabies-wildlife

Rabies is a virus that can infect any mammal, including humans.

Symptoms: dumb behaviour, very aggressive, partial paralysis, drooling, dirty fur or hair and thin. This disease is easily transmitted to humans through body fluid contact.

If you have had contact with a rabies infected animal please call the Rabies Information Line at 1-888-574-6656.

In infected mammals, the virus is found in saliva and can be spread through three main ways: Bites that break the skin; getting infected saliva in an open cut, sore or other wound; getting infected saliva in the mouth, nose or eyes.

Once signs of rabies appear in any animal the disease is usually fatal.

A series of vaccinations and treatment with rabies antibodies can prevent infection in humans in most cases if administered soon after exposure.



LYME DISEASE : www.ontario.ca/page/lyme-disease

Lyme disease is a potentially serious infection that you can get if you are bitten by an infected black legged (deer) tick. Avoid being bitten by using DEET around neck wrists, waist, and ankles. Keep away from tall grass and bushes.

Symptoms: rash, fever, headache, stiff neck, muscle aches and joint pains, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes, spasms, numbness or tingling and facial paralysis.

Contact your local public health unit or health care professional if you experience any of the above symptoms after a tick bite.

- If bitten, use tweezers and gently pull out the tick in one piece
- Wash and disinfect your skin
- Place the tick in a secure container and take it to the nearest local public health unit.

Most cases of Lyme disease can be treated successfully with antibiotics.



CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD): www.ontario.ca/page/chronic-wasting-disease

This is a progressive, fatal disease of the central nervous system that attacks cervids (e.g. deer, moose, elk and caribou). There is currently no treatment.

Symptoms: uncoordinated movements, drooping head excessive thirst, emaciated.

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) annually tests wild deer in Ontario - to date all tests have been negative. However, CWD is in three Canadian provinces; Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta and 26 U.S States including most States surrounding the Great Lakes. Although CWD has not been detected in humans science researchers across North America claim the potential may exist. This disease can be detrimental to our deer herds and Ontario's economy.

Please, if you see a sick deer, report it to the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative at 1-866-673-4781.

