



TELLER COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT
PO BOX 928 * DIVIDE, CO 80814 * (719) 687-6416 * FAX (719) 687-6501

Notice

Colorado Mountain Estates Bat Confirmed Positive for Rabies

A resident in Colorado Mountain Estates in the neighborhood of Cameron Circle, Bighorn Lane, Dillon Lane, and Due South Road contacted Teller County Animal Control on 7/30/2021 regarding a bat that was acting "ill." The bat was found on the deck during the day. The bat was tested for Rabies by Teller County Public Health and Environment at the CDPHE Laboratory. The bat had no known mammal contact, but TCPHE recommends that pet owners assure your animals are up to date with rabies vaccine coverage. TC Animal Control reports seeing many domestic animals loose in the neighborhood where the bat was secured.

To learn more about bats and rabies, go to www.co.teller.co.us



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LEARN MORE ABOUT BATS & RABIES

Most bats don't have rabies. For example, even among bats submitted for rabies testing because they could be captured, were obviously weak or sick, or had been captured by a cat, only about 6% had rabies.

You can't tell if a bat has rabies just by looking at it. Rabies can only be confirmed by a laboratory. Any bat that is active by day or is found in a place where bats are not usually seen, like in your home or on your lawn, just might be rabid. A bat that is unable to fly and is easily approached could very well be sick.

Awareness of the facts about bats and rabies can help people protect themselves, their families, and their pets.

Teach children never to handle unfamiliar animals, wild or domestic, even if they appear friendly. "Love your own, leave other animals alone" is a good principle for children to learn.

Wash any wound from an animal thoroughly with soap and water and seek medical attention immediately.

Have all dead, sick, or easily captured bats tested for rabies **if exposure to people or pets occurs.**

Prevent bats from entering living quarters or occupied spaces in homes, churches, schools, and other similar areas where they might contact people and pets.

- In CO, <1% of bats in the wild are infected with rabies
 - 5-18% of bats submitted for test are positive for rabies
- Signs of rabies in bats: grounded, unable to fly, erratic behavior (flying or attacking during the day); paralysis