



Essential First Steps

- Promptly clean the wound with soap and water and treat with an antiseptic.
- The bite victim should **seek immediate medical attention** and advice.
- If advised by a physician or Public Health official, **rabies treatment should be administered as soon as possible** following a bite, preferably the same day the bite occurs.

Assist with Capturing the Animal (if possible)

- The victim's medical treatment will be more effective if Public Health officials can assess the animal.
- **Contact Animal Control**
 - In **Benton County**, 24 hours per day, call (541) 766 – 6911.
 - Outside Benton County:
 - Those working in rabies high risk environments are advised to predetermine bite response measures as part of their [Field Work Safety Planning Record](#).
 - Alternatively, call 9 -1 -1.
- **Provided Essential Information About the Animal**
 - Physical description
 - Current location
 - Direction of travel
 - Identity of owner, etc.

Reporting Responsibilities

- **Oregon State Law requires that animal bites be reported within one (1) working day** to the Health Department in the *county* in which the bite occurred.
- **The bite victim** (or their parent/guardian in the case of a minor) or the attending physician **shall report the bite**.
 - In **Benton County**, use the Benton County Health Department [Animal Bite Reporting form](#).
 - The Benton County Health Department will follow up and contact you.
 - **Exceptions:** bites received from children or purpose-bred Class A research rodents *need not be reported*.
 - Outside Benton County, you may determine the appropriate contact information by way of the Oregon Health Authority's [Local Health Department Directory](#).
- **The supervisor** of the bitten OSU employee:
 - **Shall** report the incident to OSU Human Resources as directed by their [Incident Reporting webpage](#).
 - **Should** ensure that the mandatory Health Department reporting is promptly completed.

Additional Information

- The [OSU Human Rabies Prevention Program](#) applies to all field research, clinical, or teaching activities where there is a likelihood that OSU employees or students could come into contact with rabies through contact with reservoir animals or specimens collected from such animals. The term “reservoir animals” means dogs, cats (especially feral dogs and cats), skunks, raccoons, foxes, coyotes and all types of bats. This plan also applies to research or diagnostic work in which contact is possible with suspected or potentially infected reservoir animal saliva, unfixed neural tissues (e.g., brain), cerebrospinal fluid, or cell culture of rabies virus or related *Lyssavirus*.
- Benton County Environmental Health – [Animal Bites website](#)
- Oregon Health Authority – [Fact Sheet: Rabies](#)
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) – [Rabies website](#)

Contact EHS:

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