



Humans and all mammals are susceptible to rabies, which is almost always fatal when contracted.

The disease is transmitted by an infected animal's biting or licking. The rabies virus usually enters the victim's body through a break in the skin.

Rabies affects the central nervous system. It may take from ten days to over a year to develop; however, exposed people can be successfully treated by a series of vaccinations before the development of symptoms.

Wildlife rabies is a major source of infection for domestic animals, including pets. This is why it is important to make sure your pet is vaccinated against rabies each year. The disease may be transmitted to a person by infected wild or domestic animals.

Rabies occurs in all seasons and in all sections of the country. Report suspected rabid animals to Lewisville Animal Control at 972/219-3478.

Watch out for ~

Bold, friendly, or apparently tame wild animals.

Night animals, like skunks and foxes, that are active in the daytime.

Pets or wild animals that have difficulty walking, eating, or drinking.

Signs of excitement or viciousness in a normally quiet animal.

Animals that tear at or scratch an old wound.

If you are bitten by an animal ~

Anytime a warm-blooded animal (dog, cat, ferret, skunk, fox, bat, etc.) bites or scratches a person, there is a possibility that the animal is infected with rabies. Therefore, the following precautions should be taken:

- Immediately wash the wound with soap and hot water as a first aid procedure.
- Consult with a physician after washing the wound about further treatment, including rabies prevention treatment.
- Report the incident to Lewisville Animal Control at 972/219-3478. They are responsible for investigating the incident and enforcing State quarantine and rabies testing requirements.