



“Helping to maintain a healthy community”

Robert K. Weisdack, R.S., M.A., M.P.H.
Health Commissioner

**GEAUGA COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT
JULY 28, 2004**

A raccoon that was trapped in Lake County (Leroy Township) last week has been confirmed as rabid. Since 1977, several counties near the Ohio–Pennsylvania border have reported rabies in cats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes. The state of Ohio has conducted an aggressive program to limit the migration of raccoon strain rabies out of that area. This case of rabies is significant because the virus had not previously been found this far west of the state line.

The Geauga County Health District is currently working closely with the Ohio Department of Health, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and the CDC to provide increased surveillance in this area to determine the extent of the rabies migration.

Please read the Rabies Fact Sheet for additional information.

Any questions should be directed to the Geauga County General Health District at extension 6578.