



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2010

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Free Rabies Clinic Scheduled

Celoron, NY - The Chautauqua County Department of Health announces a free rabies vaccination clinic to be held on **Saturday, August 7th, from 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon at the Village Highway Garage, 50 Gifford Avenue, Celoron.** The clinic is sponsored by the Village of Celoron with Dr. Jill Colburn as the attending veterinarian.

Vaccinations will be provided free of charge to all dogs, cats and domesticated ferrets three (3) months of age and older. Please know that all pets **must** be on a leash or in a cage; and you should bring rabies vaccination records for each animal that will be receiving a shot. It is helpful for the veterinarian to know the previous immunization status of each animal to ensure proper and effective vaccination.

New York State law requires each dog, cat and domesticated ferret over the age of four months be vaccinated against rabies. County residents are encouraged to be responsible pet owners by having pets vaccinated.

Rabies is a very serious disease of warm-blooded animals caused by a virus. Raccoons, bats, skunks and foxes are the common disease carriers. The virus is transmitted to humans and animals through saliva. It can enter the body from a bite, scratch, scrape or open cut. The rabies virus infects the central nervous system, causing brain swelling and ultimately death within days of the onset of symptoms.

For more information on the August 7th clinic and rabies in general, please see the Health Department's website at: <http://www.co.chautaugua.ny.us/health/healthframe.htm> or contact the Health Department toll free at 1-866-604-6789.

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