

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McHenry County Department of Health's Animal Control Division to Host Spring Low-Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinics

MCHENRY COUNTY, IL – The McHenry County Department of Health's Animal Control Division (MCAC) is excited to host three low-cost rabies vaccination clinics this spring – April 16th, May 14th, and May 21st – at the McHenry County Animal Control and Adoption Center, located at 100 N. Virginia Street in Crystal Lake.

The MCAC's low-cost rabies vaccination clinics are by appointment only, and registration is available online at bit.ly/MCAC-clinics. Residents with questions can call [\(815\) 459-6222](tel:8154596222).

Cash is the only form of payment accepted at the clinics. Clinics are available for both cats and dogs, and will be offered on the following days and hours:

- Tuesday, April 16 | 1pm – 4pm (dogs only)
- Tuesday, May 14 | 1pm – 4pm (cats only)
- Tuesday, May 21 | 1pm – 4pm (dogs only)

Special package pricing is being offered for fixed (spayed or neutered) animals. All animals attending one of the clinics will be microchipped unless a previous microchip is registered or scanned during the event.

Special package pricing for fixed (spayed or neutered) animals:

- Dogs: Microchip, 1 year vaccination and registration: \$20
- Dogs: Microchip, 3 year vaccination and registration: \$50
- Cats: Microchip, 1 year vaccination and registration: \$15
- Cats: Microchip, 3 year vaccination and registration: \$40

Intact animals (not spayed or neutered) can still attend the clinics, with the costs being \$15 for a 1 year vaccination and \$30 for a 3 year vaccination. Registration is a separate fee. Intact animals receiving a vaccination will also receive a free microchip unless previously microchipped.

All dogs must be leashed, and all cats must be in a carrier when arriving for their appointments. Please do not bring animals that are in heat. Information about bite history for dogs that are easily stressed will be requested when making an appointment. Owners are responsible for putting a muzzle on any dog that needs one prior to their appointment.

Rabies is a virus that attacks the central nervous system of animals and humans and is fatal once symptoms appear. A change in an animal's behavior is often the first sign of rabies in a pet. A rabid animal may become either abnormally aggressive or unusually tame, and it may lose fear of people and become docile or become excited and irritable.

We strongly urge adults to educate children about avoiding contact with unfamiliar animals and to immediately inform an adult if they are bitten or scratched by an animal. Any animal bites or encounters with animals suspected of having rabies should be reported to the MCAC at [\(815\) 459-6222](tel:8154596222).

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