

## **Guide to Rabies Quarantine Observation Videos**

[humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov)

Waukesha County conducts a local rabies control program to ensure the health of our community. Our goal in quarantining an animal is to produce a healthy animal at the end of the quarantine period. We strive for minimal inconvenience to you, while complying with state and local laws. Most rabies quarantines are 10 days in length, with the bite date serving as day zero. In the event the animal dies during the quarantine period, you must notify our department immediately.

If medical issues develop in the animal during the quarantine, contact your veterinarian. Let your veterinarian know about the bite incident and contact the Humane Office immediately.

For our staff to make effective observations of animals in bite case quarantines, videos submitted must be small digital files, well lit, show coordination of animal, and be submitted on time. Please record your animal in some type of motion, to demonstrate its' coordination. The recording needs to be a minimum of 8 seconds with a maximum of 12 seconds. Please state the date and time, identify the animal by first and last name, and show it responding to a command , swallowing a treat or walking.

Videos are due the first day we contact you, and between day 5-8 post bite. Specific dates will be provided to you by a Humane Officer. Once you film your animal, send the video file to : [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). Your submission will be confirmed the next working day. Please return a signed Animal Quarantine Procedures form by email or fax. After the second video is received by a Humane Officer, the "Veterinary Release Examination" paperwork will be forwarded to your veterinarian. A veterinary appointment should be made for day 10 or day 11 post-bite. The release appointment isn't valid if it is done before day 10. Your veterinary office will return the paperwork to the county, upon completion of the exam.

If your pet is not licensed, this needs to be done as well. Please check your local municipality (city/village/town) for licensing requirements. Most have online information available. Please provide proof of dog licensing within 15 days of bite incident. Notify the Humane Office: on voicemail leave Dog License tag (not rabies tag) year, color and number or send photo of this information to the [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov) email.

Humane Officer: work days 262-896-8330. Afterhours: Urgent only: (dispatcher) 262-446-5070.

**WAUKESHA COUNTY DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

515 W Moreland Blvd, Rm AC 260, Waukesha, WI 53188 Tel: (262) 896-8300 Fax: (262) 896-8298  
[www.waukeshacounty.gov/rabies](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/rabies) Email: humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov

**ANIMAL QUARANTINE PROCEDURES**

Dogs that **Do Not** have a current rabies vaccination are **NOT eligible** for a home quarantine and must be quarantined at a facility.

Procedures to follow when home quarantine is allowed per Wisconsin State Statutes 93.07(10) and 95.21(10) (b):

1. During quarantine, the animal must be kept in strict isolation, which means away from non-family members and non-family animals. It must be kept in a facility where it cannot escape or be stolen. Adults are to be the primary caregivers of the animal. At a minimum, there are at least 10 days of quarantine. The date of the bite is counted as day zero. There must be three examinations of the quarantined animal by a professional.
  - Under Waukesha County’s local rabies control program, a County Humane Officer can make two observations of the quarantined animal with the third observation made by a licensed veterinarian on Day 10 or 11 post-incident. **The quarantine ends only when the veterinarian signs the release papers.**
  - Alternatively, all 3 observations can be done by a veterinarian, with the final exam on day 10 or 11 after the bite. It is the responsibility of the owner (owner is defined as a person who owns, harbors, keeps or controls an animal) to make the appropriate appointments with the veterinarian for the required examination(s) and to pay for all professional fees. The Humane Officer must approve the isolation facility.
2. If the quarantined animal’s behavior or appearance changes or if the animal becomes ill or dies, you must notify the department immediately by telephoning 262-896-8300. On weekends or after normal working hours telephone the Waukesha County Communications at 262-446-5070 to contact the Humane Officer.
3. If the quarantined animal is a dog, it must be leashed while outside to relieve itself and remain on keeper’s property, with no walks or car rides. If the quarantined animal is a cat or ferret, it cannot be allowed to go outside at all. Do not risk the animal running away, getting injured or coming in contact with something that would cause it to become ill.

Animals can **NOT** be vaccinated for rabies or any other vaccinations during the quarantine. **If your dog is unvaccinated for rabies, it must be vaccinated at the time of release from quarantine.** Ask your veterinarian to fax your quarantine release and proof of rabies vaccination to the county’s rabies control office. **All dog owners must obtain/possess a current dog license each year.** Licenses are available at your city/town/village hall.

Some municipalities require cats to have a current rabies vaccination and cat license. Cats and ferrets may be vaccinated for rabies at the time of release from quarantine and obtain a license if required by the municipality.

Failure of an owner to comply with an order to quarantine may result in a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisonment up to 60 days or both. Each day of violation is considered a separate offense. Failure to vaccinate an animal against rabies may result in a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$100.

**YOU MAY NOT MEDICATE WITHOUT VETERINARY SUPERVISION OR DISPOSE OF THE ANIMAL IN ANY WAY DURING THE QUARANTINE. THE ANIMAL SHALL NOT BE SOLD, GIVEN AWAY, DESTROYED OR REMOVED FROM PREMISES WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE HUMANE OFFICER.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Animal Owner/ Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Humane Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date