

Rabies: Help us keep you and wildlife safe!

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Point Reyes National Seashore



Parks provide a unique chance to view and appreciate wildlife.

However, wildlife can sometimes get sick with diseases that can make you sick too, so respect wildlife from a distance.

- Rabies is a disease that humans can catch from the bite or saliva of an infected animal. Rabies is always fatal if medical care is not given in time.
- Any mammal can get rabies, but bats, feral cats, raccoons, foxes, and skunks are more likely to get sick with rabies.
- Animals sick with rabies may lose their fear of humans, act strangely, or become aggressive.
- If you are bitten or scratched by an animal, you should immediately see a physician to see if you need medical care to prevent rabies. You cannot tell if an animal has rabies without laboratory testing.

Keep yourself safe:

Never touch or approach wildlife too closely.

Never feed wildlife; this can make them aggressive and threaten your and the animal's safety.

Report sick, dead, or strangely acting wildlife to a park ranger immediately.

If any wildlife contact does occur, tell a park ranger right away. The animal may need to be tested for rabies.

More Information

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