

For Immediate Release

October 1, 2020

Plano Animal Services urges Caution in Wake of Two Additional Rabies Cases

Plano Animal Service Director Jamey Cantrell reports the discovery of two more bats that tested positive for rabies. These are the third and fourth positive bats found since September 16th. One bat was tested after it came into contact with a resident's pets in the backyard of a home in the area of Stone Creek Drive and Parkhaven Drive. A second bat was found deceased on the sidewalk on Clark Parkway just north of New Haven Drive. That bat was tested out of an abundance of caution even though no known contact was reported. Anyone who believes they may have been in contact with either of these bats, or any other wildlife, is encouraged to contact Animal Services at (972) 769-4360.

Rabies is a viral disease that occurs in warm-blooded animals and can be contracted by humans through bites from infected animals. "This positive test highlights the importance of being cautious around wildlife and always reporting any contact with them," said Cantrell. "It also shows why it's so important to keep all pet vaccinations, especially rabies, current. There is no way to predict when a pet may come into contact with a wild animal." Texas law and [Plano city ordinances](#) require animals receive the rabies inoculation along with subsequent booster shots for the duration of the animal's life.

The Plano Animal Shelter does not routinely test wild animals for rabies unless they have had contact with a person or pet and are one of five high risk non-domestic animals: bats, foxes, skunks, coyotes and raccoons.

Rabies is preventable. The Shelter hosts low-cost rabies vaccination clinic on the third Friday of every month. The next vaccination clinic will be held on Friday, October 16th. All pet-owners are urged to make sure their pets are vaccinated for their pets' health and the health of their human family. If an owner cannot make this clinic, a [list of other available reduced cost vaccination clinics](#) is posted on the city's Animal Services webpage.

###

Editor's Note: Go to the City's [Media Center](#) for comprehensive information about the City of Plano.

Media Contacts

Steve Stoler
Director
Media Relations
Ph. (972) 941-7321
Mo. (972) 345-1393
Stevest@plano.gov

Jamey Cantrell
Director
Animal Services
Ph. (972) 769-4226
Jameyc@plano.gov

About Plano

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 284,070 as of January 2019. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Niche and AreaVibes recently named Plano as one of the Best Cities to Live in America. Forbes designated Plano one of America's safest cities. The City offers a high quality of life that includes nationally recognized schools, award-winning parks, and sustainability initiatives and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home to the headquarters or regional operations of major corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase, Boeing Global Services, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Denbury Resources and Alliance Data Systems. Our dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at plano.gov.