

## KEY PHONE NUMBERS

### BITES:

PDPH Division of Disease Control

**215-685-6748**

Rabies & Animal Information

**215-685-9010**

Dead Animal Removal (curbside)

**Streets Dept: 215-686-5560**

Sick Dogs & Cats

**SPCA: 215-426-6300**

Sick Wild Animals

**Pennsylvania Game**

**Commission: 1-800-228-0791**

## KNOW WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BITTEN BY AN ANIMAL

**Philadelphia Department  
of Public Health**

**Environmental Health Services**

**Division of Disease Control**



**Division of Disease Control:  
215-685-6748**

## What to do if you are bitten:

### WASH THE WOUND THOROUGHLY

- With lots of soap & warm running water

### SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION

- Even if the bite or scratch appears minor

**Since a doctor is required by law to report this bite to the Department of Public Health, please provide the following information if you have it:**

- Accurate description of the biting animal
- Whether the biting animal is wild, a stray, or a pet
- If a pet: the owner's name and address
- How the bite occurred

**As an animal bite victim, you may report the bite incident directly to the Division of Disease Control:**

**215-685-6748**

After the bite has occurred, the Division of Disease Control will contact you to give you the results of the investigation. Investigations are initiated only when a person has been bitten by an owned animal and the owner's name and/or address are known.

### SEVERE BITES

Under certain severe circumstances, owned dogs may be declared "dangerous" under State Law. This declaration will require the owner to comply with all provisions of Pennsylvania Law 784, No.225, "Dangerous Dogs".

To meet the legal definition of "severe", one of following two conditions must be met:

- *Broken Bones*
- *Disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery*

If you are a victim of a "severe" animal bite, you should contact:

**Animal Care and Control Team (ACCT)**

**267-385-3800  
24 hours, 7 days**

### HOW TO PREVENT ANIMAL BITES

- Leave animals alone when they are eating and drinking
- Never tease or scare animals: Remember, animals protect their own territory, property and owners
- Never mistreat or hurt an animal
- Never pet an animal when they are with their young
- Never intervene when animals are fighting
- Leave injured, sick animals alone
- Never keep wild animals as pets
- Never pet an animal you don't know

**IF YOU HAD ANY CONTACT WITH A BAT, EVEN IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU'VE BEEN BITTEN, PLEASE CALL THE DIVISION OF DISEASE CONTROL AT 215-685-6748**