

## KEY PHONE NUMBERS FOR INFORMATION

### BITES:

(Physician/Hospital/Victim Reporting)

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
DIVISION OF DISEASE CONTROL.....215-685-6748

### RABIES & ANIMAL INFORMATION:

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT.....215-685-9040  
DIVISION OF DISEASE CONTROL.....215-685-6740

### DEAD ANIMAL REMOVAL: (CURBSIDE ONLY)

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF STREETS.....215-686-5560

### SICK DOGS & CATS:

PENNSYLVANIA S.P.C.A.....215-426-6300

### SICK WILD ANIMALS:

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION.....1-800-228-0791

## 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 any animal.
- Never pet animals when they have babies.
- Never try to stop animals that are fighting.
- Leave injured, sick or dead animals alone and get help.
- Leave all wild animals alone.
- Never keep wild animals as pets.
- Never try to pet an animal you do not know.

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



PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH  
SERVICES



DIVISION OF  
DISEASE  
CONTROL

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU OR A CHILD UNDER YOUR CARE IS BITTEN BY A PET OR WILD ANIMAL:**

**WASH THE WOUND THOROUGHLY**

- With lots of soap & warm running water.

**IF THE ANIMAL IS WILD OR A STRAY, CONFINE IT IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.**

- Then call the Animal Control Unit at **215-685-9040**.
- If the animal is a pet, obtain the name and address of the animal's owner and an accurate description of the animal.

**SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION:**

- Even if the bite or scratch appears minor.
- Since the doctor is required by law to report this bite to the Department of Public Health, please provide the following information to the doctor if available:
  - accurate description of biting animal
  - whether 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 by calling **215-685-6748**, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

After the bite has been reported, 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.

.....

Under certain severe circumstances, owned dogs that bite 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 the following two conditions must be met:

- Broken bones
- Disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures (stitches) or cosmetic surgery

If you are the victim of a "severe" animal bite, you should call the Animal Control Unit at **215-685-9040**.

.....

If you had ANY contact with a bat, even if you don't think you've been bitten, please call Division of Disease Control at **215-685-6740**.