

BAT TESTS POSITIVE FOR RABIES IN CENTRAL UTAH

Central Utah, June 17, 2025 – The Central Utah Health Department (CUHD) is alerting the public about a recent case of rabies found in a bat in Millard County. The bat was tested by the state lab and the results came back positive for rabies.

"Bats are known carriers of rabies, and while they typically avoid human contact, we advise the public to never handle them directly," said Nate Selin, Health Officer for the Central Utah Health Department. "Ensure that your pets are vaccinated and if you encounter a bat, do not touch it. In the event of a bite or potential exposure, seek immediate medical attention."

Rabies Prevention and Safety Tips:

- **Avoid Contact with Wildlife:** Rabies can be transmitted through bites or saliva from infected animals. Do not approach wild animals, particularly bats, raccoons, or skunks.
- **In the Event of a Bite or Exposure:** If bitten or scratched by a bat or wild animal, wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water and seek immediate medical attention.
- **Protect Pets:** Ensure your pets—particularly cats, dogs, and ferrets—are vaccinated against rabies. If you haven't already, talk to your veterinarian about getting your pets up-to-date.
- **Handling Bats:** If you find a bat inside your home or on your property, avoid handling it. Contact animal control or a professional for safe removal.

For more information about rabies, symptoms, and prevention, visit epi.utah.gov/rabies.