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RABIES TOP TEN LIST!!!

10. **Take care of your pets**- give them plenty of water, feed them properly, exercise them AND protect them from illnesses by getting them vaccinated against RABIES and other diseases!
9. **Don't touch wild animals**—ever! If your pet tangles with one, use gloves to clean your pet off.
8. **Only pet your own pet** – ask permission from other pet owners before you touch their pet. Encourage children to tell an adult immediately if they are bitten by an animal.
7. **Seal openings in your house** so that bats cannot get in. If you need help with this, call a professional. Bats don't belong in the house!
6. **If you wake up and a bat is in the house, DON'T THROW IT OUT OR DESTROY IT!!** Capture it properly and have it tested.
5. **Bat bites or scratches are not necessarily felt or are visible.** Waking up with a bat in the house or having unattended children in the home are reasons to be concerned about possible exposure. Capture the bat and seek medical attention.
4. **If you are exposed to an animal**, wake up with a bat in the house, are bitten, scratched or in contact with saliva— Wash wounds with soap and water and seek medical attention.
3. **Keep family pets indoors at night.** Don't leave them outside unattended or let them roam free. Keep pet foods indoors.
2. **Limit or DON'T USE pet doors**—wild animals don't know they aren't supposed to come into your house!
1. **Call the Health Department (Environmental Health) 337-1673** if you have captured an animal or if you think you have been exposed.

TOP TEN brought to you by:
Chenango County Health Department
5 Court St. –Norwich, NY
607-337-1660