

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUFFOLK ANIMAL CONTROL HANDLING TWO FOX ATTACK INCIDENTS

SUFFOLK, VA (May 30, 2010) Suffolk Animal Control are investigating two incidents of fox attacks in different areas of the City. The first incident occurred Saturday morning just after 1 a.m. A sixty-seven year old man reports that he was sitting in the back yard of a residence in the 200 block of Tree Lane when he was attacked by a fox. The animal bit him on the calf and ankle. A cat at that location was also attacked.

The victim is receiving medical treatments. Animal Control has set traps in an effort to catch the fox.

This morning Animal Control responded to the report of a fight between a fox and a canine on Bedford Place. That fox was caught. It will be euthanized and turned over to the Health Department for testing.

With all of the outdoor activities going on today, Animal Control hopes everyone will have fun but urges caution if they observe wild animals. They have issued the following safety tips:

- Vaccinate all pets against rabies and keep their shots up to date.
- Feed pets indoors and keep them on a leash or fenced in. Pets allowed to roam, especially cats, are more likely to contract rabies and expose you and other pets in your home.

- Animal-proof your home and yard. Cap your chimney, block openings in attics, cellars, decks, and under sheds to discourage wildlife from nesting.
- Store garbage in secure containers. Garbage attracts animals looking for an easy meal.
- DO NOT FEED WILD ANIMALS OR STRAYS. Wildlife are meant to live in the wild. Feeding them disrupts their natural life cycle and encourages dangerous contact with family members and pets.
- DO NOT HANDLE WILD ANIMALS OR STRAYS. If contact is unavoidable, use heavy gloves, sticks, or other tools to prevent direct contact.
- Please report to Animal Control any exposures with wildlife to humans or animals.

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