

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Fox that Attacked Suffolk Man Tested Positive for Rabies

SUFFOLK, Va. (September 11, 2008) – The fox that attacked a seventy-three year old Suffolk man has tested positive for rabies. Suffolk Animal Control officers responded to the call of a fox attack Saturday. Investigation revealed that a gray fox had attacked a seventy-three year old man in the yard of his O’Kelly Dr. home.

The man fought the fox off, ultimately choking it and hitting it against a tree. The man received scratches to his arm during the incident. The fox was turned over to Animal Control, where it was euthanized. The animal was tested and results received yesterday from the Virginia Environmental Health Department confirmed the animal tested positive for rabies. The victim had already begun treatment for the disease.

This was the fourth confirmed case of rabies in Suffolk this year. All prior cases involved skunks. Animal Control urges everyone to limit their contact with wildlife, report any aggressive wildlife and make sure that pets are vaccinated again against rabies.

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