



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Public Health  
Dr. Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory  
395 West Street; Rocky Hill, CT 06067

## Modifications to Rabies Testing Requirements and Testing Hours

The Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory will no longer offer testing for:

- wild animals in contact with domestic animals
- bats submitted by nuisance wildlife control operators
- small rodents (e.g. mice, rats, chipmunks, moles)
- wild rabbits

Dogs and cats that bite people should be placed in quarantine for observation and only euthanized and submitted for testing if suspected by a veterinarian of being rabid or ordered by an Animal Control Officer.

- all cats and dogs, regardless of size, must be decapitated for submission to the state lab

Rabies testing will be conducted from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. Specimens submitted after 10:00 AM the day before a weekend or holiday, or when the DPH Laboratory is closed, will be refrigerated and tested on the next business day. Routine weekend and holiday testing is discontinued. Information regarding specimen submissions, including the submission form is available at:

[http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/infectious\\_diseases/rabies/rabiestestform\\_o197a.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/infectious_diseases/rabies/rabiestestform_o197a.pdf)

or by calling the DPH Public Health Laboratory at 860-920-6662 or 860-920-6500.

Animals not accepted for testing by the DPH Public Health Laboratory may be submitted for testing at the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, University of Connecticut in Storrs. Contact information, submission forms and fees are available at:

<http://cvmdl.uconn.edu> or by calling 860-486-3738

For questions regarding human rabies exposures, contact the DPH Epidemiology and Emerging Infections Program at 860-509-7994. For questions regarding domestic animal rabies exposures contact the Department of Agriculture Animal Control Division at 860-713-2506. For questions or comments regarding the new submission guidelines contact Dr. Anthony Muyombwe, Public Health Laboratory Division Director, Biosciences at the State Public Health Laboratory, 860-920-6506.

**Reprinted from the Connecticut Epidemiologist, Vol. 36, No. 3; 12, April 2016**