

# MIDDLE-BROOK REGIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION

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## PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK  
TOWNSHIP OF GREEN BROOK  
BOROUGH OF SOUTH BOUND BROOK  
BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG  
TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

## PRESS RELEASE

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission is reporting that a fox found in Warren NJ tested positive for rabies on February 24, 2016. The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission urges residents to be aware and cautious of potential rabid animals and avoid contact with any unknown animal. Rabies, a neurological disease, is almost 100% preventable. However, rabies is nearly always fatal once symptoms have developed so prompt action is necessary to prevent rabies!

While health department personnel have identified individuals potentially exposed to this animal, we encourage anyone who has had direct contact with a fox in Warren to contact the Health Department immediately. In addition to the human exposures necessitating treatment, pets were also exposed, some of which were not vaccinated against the disease. This incident should serve as a reminder of the importance of making sure your pet is up to date on their vaccinations, especially rabies. In addition, we encourage pet owners to be aware of their pets' location and activities at all times in order to try to avoid preventable exposures. If your pet is exposed to a wild animal, it is very important to notify the health department, have the pet seen by a veterinarian, test the wild animal if it is available, and to avoid human contact with any saliva, wounds, etc. to prevent human exposures.

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, serving Bound Brook, Green Brook, South Bound Brook, Warren, and Watchung, is available to assist you with any incidents. Please contact us at 732-968-5151 or call the Warren Health Department at 908-753-8000 ext. 239. You can also contact us by email at [mbrhc@middlebrookhealth.org](mailto:mbrhc@middlebrookhealth.org) with any questions or concerns. If an incident occurs after normal hours please contact your local police department.

