



# Hot Scoop

**URGENT NEWS & UPDATES**

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**The Cat Practice received Hot Scoop News and want to pass this information on to all of our Cat lovers.**

## **From the Oakland County department of Health & Human Services**

### **Michigan's first groundhog rabies case reported in Southfield**

Oakland County, MI (June 17, 2011) — Michigan's first ever case of rabies in a groundhog, also known as a woodchuck, has been recorded in Southfield, Michigan. Oakland County Health Division was informed today by the Michigan Department of Community Health that they confirmed positive rabies in a groundhog that had bitten a Southfield woman. Oakland County Health Division urges residents to take precautions against rabies exposure from wild animals such as skunks, bats, raccoons and foxes.

If a wild animal is found in or near your home, call the local animal control agency for assistance and to assess whether there is a potential rabies exposure. If bitten by any wild animal or stray domestic animal, wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water and seek medical attention immediately.

"As wild animals become more active in warmer weather, the possibility of human contact increases," said Kathy Forzley, manger/health officer of Oakland County Health Division. "Our natural instinct is to befriend a baby animal, pet one that seems friendly or help an injured animal. But stray and wild animals should be avoided."

Follow these tips to prevent.....

[Click here for the full press release from Oakland County Health Department](#)