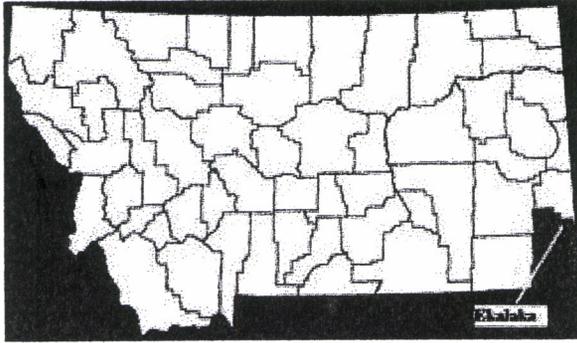


Eastern Montana county under quarantine due to rabies

Posted: Apr 26, 2012 3:36 PM



Carter County in southeastern Montana has been quarantined due to rabies effective April 24 after puppy tested positive for the disease.

Under Montana law, counties are quarantined when rabies is diagnosed in a terrestrial animal such as a dog, cat, skunk or fox.

All unvaccinated dogs, cats and ferrets in quarantined counties must be vaccinated a minimum of two weeks prior to any travel outside the quarantined county.

A press release from the Montana Department of Livestock says that the incident resulted in multiple human exposures, which are being tracked by the Montana Department of Health & Human Services, and euthanasia of the dam and four pups.

Rabies is highly preventable in domestic companion animals and livestock via an inexpensive and effective vaccine.

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Pet owners are encouraged to keep their animals up to date on vaccinations, and should consult with their veterinarian to determine local vaccination requirements.

Anyone who is bitten or scratched by an animal should thoroughly wash the wound with soap and water and seek medical attention for the wound.

Animal bites should be reported to the county health department (or County Sheriff's office after hours) as soon as possible.

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