



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **World Rabies Day is Sept. 28**

World Rabies Day is Sept. 28, a day set aside to raise awareness of the disease to help prevent cases.

According to the CDC and the World Health Organization, rabies is a vaccine-preventable disease. It causes tens of thousands of deaths every year worldwide, with the disease occurring in more than 150 countries.

In the United States, most cases of rabies are found in wildlife, due to high levels of vaccination of dogs and cats here. But worldwide, dogs are the most common reason for rabies transmission in humans.

Both centers agree the best way to prevent rabies is to keep your pets vaccinated, and avoid contact with strange dogs as well as wildlife. If you do come into contact with an animal you believe has the virus and you have been bitten or scratched, immediately wash the wound with soap and water for 15 minutes, and seek medical aid either through the emergency room or your healthcare provider to receive a rabies vaccine.

For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/rabies](http://www.cdc.gov/rabies).

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The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department serves Wood, Wirt, Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie and Roane Counties. It is located at 211 Sixth St. in Parkersburg. The offices are open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 304-485-7374 or visit the website, [movhd.com](http://movhd.com) for more information. Follow them at Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department MOVHD on Facebook and @MOVHealthDept on Instagram and Twitter.