



# NEWS

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## **MCHD Offers Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Third Annual Pottstown Pet Fair**

**Pottstown, PA (August 19, 2013)** – The Montgomery County Health Department is excited to announce that it is working in partnership with the Borough of Pottstown as part of the Borough's Third Annual Pottstown Pet Fair. The Pet Fair is scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at Pottstown Memorial Park, which is located at 75 W. King Street in Pottstown. This is a free community event which includes retail vendors, animal rescues, a food court, pet photos, and a dog walk to benefit the dog park.

As part of the County's Rabies Control Program, the Montgomery County Health Department will be at the Pet Fair to provide a low cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic from 9:00am-11:00am for dogs, cats, and ferrets. The cost to obtain a rabies vaccination is \$10.00 per shot. The County uses a licensed three-year vaccine, however if this is a pet's first time being vaccinated, the rabies shot is only good for one year. Visitors to the Rabies Vaccination Clinic should bring their pet in an approved carrier or on a leash.

The Montgomery County Health Department would like to remind pet owners that all cats and dogs three months of age and older must be vaccinated against rabies in accordance with local and state law. Rabies is a viral disease that can affect the central nervous system of any mammal, including humans. It is a fatal disease once symptoms appear. Rabies is most often spread through the bite of a rabid animal, though it can also be spread through a scratch from, or mucous membrane exposure to saliva from a rabid animal. In Montgomery County rabies has been found in raccoons, bats, skunks, foxes, groundhogs, cats, and dogs. A rabies vaccination for domestic animals is the best way to protect people and pets from rabies.