



# News Release

Date: July 21, 2008  
To: All Media  
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**Re: No Cost Rabies Clinic**

(New Hanover County)— The Pre-Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA) of the University of North Carolina Wilmington in cooperation with the New Hanover County Health Department, and New Hanover County Animal Control Services will conduct a no-cost rabies clinic for dogs, cats, and ferrets, at the Health Department campus Saturday, July 26 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The New Hanover County Health Department is located at 2029 S. 17th Street.

Since its inception, the PVMA has performed an annual service project. This year the club has decided to hold several no-cost clinics to promote rabies prevention by encouraging vaccination of pet animals. While rabies kills 55,000 people worldwide, the institution of mandatory pet vaccination has significantly reduced the incidence of human rabies in the United States. Vaccinating pet animals serves as a barrier to preventing the disease in humans.

The club will also sponsor an on-campus rabies clinic, in conjunction with World Rabies Day, Saturday, September 27, and partners with Animal Control for their annual inner city rabies clinic in November, and the annual shelter clinic in April.

This clinic is another of the many examples of the university-community partnership that exists to the mutual benefit of the university and all New Hanover County citizens. In addition to the Health Department and Animal Control, the PVMA no-cost rabies clinic is sponsored by the UNCW Student Government Association, College Road Animal Hospital in Wilmington, and Capeside Animal Hospital in Leland. Donations towards the effort are encouraged and will be accepted the day of the clinic.

This clinic is being held at the New Hanover County Health Department to showcase the relationship between New Hanover County Animal Control Services and the New Hanover County Health Department. As part of the Health Department, Animal Control's priority is to protect the public from the threat of rabies exposure. The PVMA wanted to hold the clinic at

the Health Department to remind the public of the importance of rabies prevention as part of protecting the public's health.

For more information, contact G. Robert Weedon, DVM, MPH, Vice-Chairman, New Hanover County Board of Health at [gweedon@nhcgov.com](mailto:gweedon@nhcgov.com), or Jean McNeil, DVM, New Hanover County Animal Control Services Manager at [jmcneil@nhcgov.com](mailto:jmcneil@nhcgov.com).

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