



Linn County Public Health
501 13th Street NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-3700
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August 7, 2012

Dear Healthcare Provider,

Healthcare practitioners and veterinarians are often the first to become aware of animal bites and therefore play a vital role in aiding with public health surveillance efforts.

As stated in Linn County Ordinance Chapter 28, it is the responsibility of physicians, healthcare practitioners, and veterinarians to report any known animal bites or skin abrasions caused by companion or wild animals to the respective animal control center. Section 28.9 of the ordinance states:

- 1. Every physician or other practitioner shall report in writing to the Health Officer the name and address of any person treated for bites inflicted by an animal with such other information as will assist in the prevention of rabies.*
- 2. Every veterinarian shall report to the Health Officer any diagnosis of rabies. Every veterinarian shall report to the Health Officer the name and address of the owner of any animals treated for bites inflicted by another animal.*
- 3. Anyone, including the owner of the animal, having knowledge of a person being bitten by or receiving a skin abrasion from an animal within Linn County shall promptly report such fact to the Health Officer.*

Animal bite investigations and reporting for the Cedar Rapids city limits must be forwarded to Cedar Rapids Animal Care and Control at (319) 286-5993. Please contact the Marion Police Department at (319) 377-1511 to report animal bites which occur within the city limits of Marion. Animal bite investigations and reporting for areas within Linn County but outside of the city limits of Cedar Rapids or Marion, contact the Cedar Valley Humane Society at (319) 362-6288.

I am attaching the [Linn County Animal Bite Record](#) form for your use and distribution. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 892-6034 or heidi.peck@linncounty.org

Sincerely,

Heidi Peck
Environmental Quality Branch Supervisor