



BALLINGER POLICE DEPARTMENT

106 North 9th • Ballinger, Texas 76821
Phone (325) 365-3591 • Fax (325) 365-5612
bpd@ballingerpd.org

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 20, 2019

Cat tested positive for rabies within the City limits of Ballinger, Texas

On Friday February 15, 2019 Ballinger Police Department responded to a cat attack at a residence in the 300 block of 14th Street. The feline was euthanized at the scene and was sent off for testing at the Texas Department of State Health Services. A positive test result was received today February 20, 2019. All citizens in the area of the infected feline were notified in person of actions needed to be taken. Make sure your pets are up to date with the rabies vaccination. It will not hurt to go and give them a booster if you live near the area. Please read the precautions below.

Public Health recommends the following precautions to protect yourself and your family from possible exposure to rabies:

- Report any sick or strange acting wildlife
- Vaccinate pets and livestock. Vaccinating your domestic animal not only provides protection for the animal, but vaccinated pets act as a barrier to keep the rabies virus from spreading between wild animals and people.
- Vaccination is also recommended for livestock with frequent human contact.
- Do not feed wildlife or stray animals and discourage them from seeking food near your home.
- Do not feed strays.
- Do not approach an unknown animal, either wild or domestic, especially if it is acting in a strange or unusual manner.
- Report all animal bites and any contact with bats to the Health Department in your county. Human rabies can be prevented after exposure by administering a series of shots.
- Keep garbage cans tightly covered and avoid storing any food outside.
- Children should be instructed to tell an adult immediately if they were bitten or scratched by any animal.

If you have any question or see an animal that may be sick or infected, please call the Ballinger Police Department to report the animal at 325-365-3591.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Maresch", written over a horizontal line.

Stanley Maresch
Chief of Police