
Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare

State Fairgrounds • P.O. Box 19281 • Springfield, IL 62794-9281 • 217/782-4944 • TTY 866/287-2999 • Fax 217/558-6033

Memorandum

To: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
From: ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, BUREAU OF
ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE
Date: 3/18/2020
Subject: RABIES GUIDANCE

The Illinois Department of Agriculture recognizes that local veterinary offices are facing unique challenges in the wake of COVID-19. The Department has received several inquiries about whether there is any flexibility for animal owners to meet rabies vaccination requirements during this time as veterinary offices try to reduce appointments to protect their staff and community. All veterinary offices should use their best efforts to ensure that all animals are properly vaccinated against rabies. If this simply is not possible at this time, then veterinarians should prioritize first-time vaccination and the first booster vaccination.