

RABIES AWARENESS: The Michigan Department of Agriculture is urging residents to ensure their pets, livestock and horses have been vaccinated against rabies. Rabies cases have reached an all-time high, with 169 animal cases this year compared to 49 animal cases in 2006.

Rabies is caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system of mammals, including humans. Skunks and bats are the main carriers of the virus in Michigan and both of these species are commonly found on farms and in urban areas. Rabies is a fatal disease most often transmitted by the bite of an infected animal.

To learn more about Rabies, including tips to prevent infection, visit www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases