



# MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

PREVENT · PROMOTE · PROTECT

**Address**  
50 Westchester Drive  
Youngstown, Ohio 44515

**Phone**  
330-270-2855

**Toll Free**  
(800) 873-6243

**Laboratory Services**  
330-270-2841

**Website**  
[www.mahoninghealth.org](http://www.mahoninghealth.org)

**Facebook & Twitter**  
[@mahoninghealth](#)



**Austintown**  
330-792-2397

**Boardman**  
330-788-1485

**Youngstown**  
234-855-1575



**Phone**  
330-270-2855 ext. 136



<b>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE</b> <b>DATE:</b> July 29, 2024	Contact: MCPH PIO Team
	PIO Team Phone: 330-270-2855 ext 109
	PIO Team Email: <a href="mailto:PIOTeam@mahoninghealth.org">PIOTeam@mahoninghealth.org</a>

## 2024 Fall Oral Rabies Vaccine Baiting Operation Baiting to Begin in Mahoning County on July 29<sup>th</sup>

Beginning July 29, 2024, the US Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Health and several Ohio local health departments will begin distributing an oral rabies vaccine by ground and aircraft to immunize wild raccoons in Mahoning County and the cities of Boardman, Poland, Struthers, and Youngstown. The operation should be complete by August 21, 2024, weather depending.

### What if I find rabies baits?

If you find ORV baits, leave them alone, unless they are where children or pets play. To move ORV baits safely, you should:

- Wear gloves or use a paper towel or plastic bag when picking up the baits.
- Toss intact baits into a wooded area or other raccoon habitat.
- Bag and dispose of any damaged baits in the trash.
- Take precautions by practicing proper hygiene – wash with soap and water any skin or wounds that may have come into contact with ORV baits, especially if the bait was damaged.

### What if my pet eats the bait?

- Don't panic! A few baits are not harmful, but eating a large number may cause an upset stomach.
- Do not risk getting bitten or being exposed to the vaccine by taking a bait away from your pet.
- Check the area for more baits and relocate any remaining baits to a wooded area.
- If your pet eats a bait, avoid your pet's saliva for 24 hours, and wash skin or wounds that may have been licked.

Questions about ORV or bait you have found?

- Call the Rabies Information Line at: 1-888-574-6656



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## ABOUT MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Mahoning County Public Health works to protect the public's health and to ensure conditions in which all people can live healthy lives. Mahoning County Public Health offers a variety of services from immunizations to environmental and community health programs. For a complete list of services, visit [mahoninghealth.org](http://mahoninghealth.org).

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