



Michael C. Roach
County Judge
200 West Walker Street

The COUNTY OF STEPHENS
STEPHENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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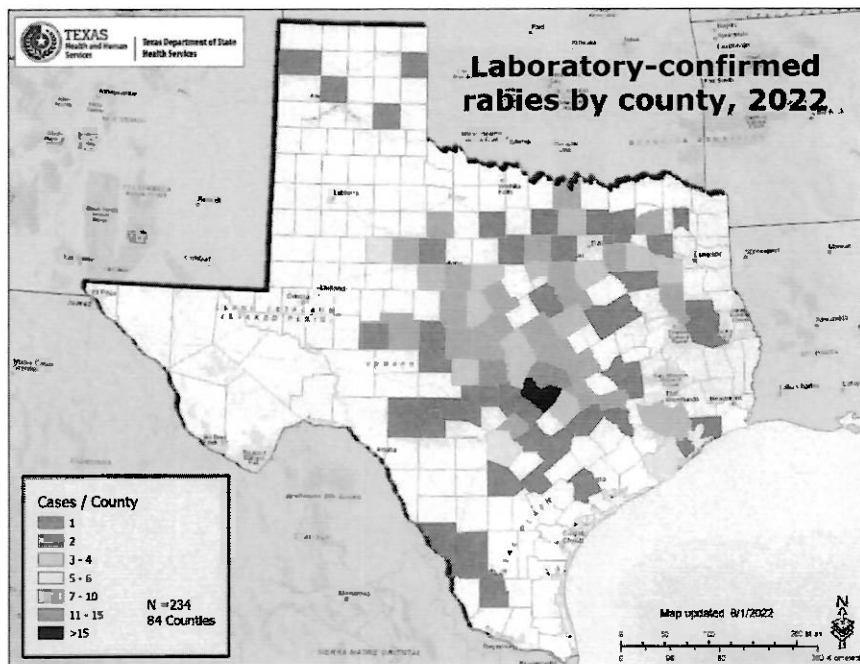
Press Release

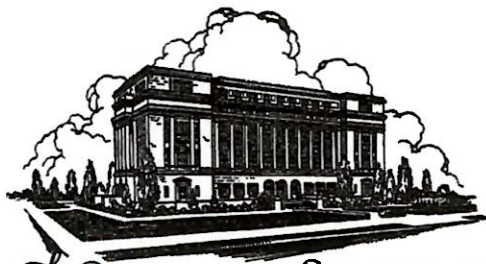
August 3, 2022

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has advised the Stephens County Sheriff’s Office of a positive rabies case in an “outside” cat near county road 120 (the southeast part of the county near the Stephens / Eastland county line). The cat bit its owner, and the positive test was confirmed today. At this time, the source of the infection is unknown.



DSHS has confirmed that several of our neighboring counties have had positive lab-confirmed cases of rabies this year (2022). Please see the attached graphic from DSHS.





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Rabies is a preventable disease. DSHS recommends that individuals take the following steps to prevent rabies exposure:

- By law, you must have a veterinarian vaccinate your dogs and cats against rabies. Keeping your pets vaccinated protects you and them. Ask a veterinarian about the best vaccination schedule for your pet.
- Restrain your pets; do not allow them to roam.
- Avoid contact with wild animals, dogs, and cats you do not know. Do not try to hand-feed wild animals and do not keep them as pets. Do not approach strange dogs or cats.
- Do not touch sick or injured animals. Call and report them to an animal control officer.

It is vital that everyone, especially children, know how to prevent rabies.

More information can be found at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/rabies.aspx>

Sincerely,

Michael C. Roach
Stephens County Judge

