

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 11, 2017

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## ***Homeward Pet Offering Free Rabies Vaccines***

*Protect Your Pets This Fall*

Woodinville, WA – The recent discovery of a rabid bat on a local playground begs the question: Is your pet routinely vaccinated against rabies? If your pet dog or cat hasn't recently been vaccinated against rabies, join us at Homeward Pet Adoption Center on Tuesday, October 17, from 1:00-6:00 pm for free rabies immunizations while supplies last.

Through preventative measures, both human and pet deaths from rabies have decreased significantly over the past century. However, confirmed rabies cases, especially in bats, have slightly increased in the Woodinville area in recent years. In 2016, 20 local bats of 297 tested positive for infection—a rate of nearly 7%. Fortunately, regular rabies vaccinations prevent transmission, even if beloved pets come into contact with infected wildlife.

"A bite from a disease carrier, such as foxes, raccoons, skunks, and bats, is the primary way a rabies virus is transmitted to pets," says Gary Rubin, Homeward Pet's Executive Director. In order to combat this deadly disease, Homeward Pet is offering free rabies vaccinations to cats and dogs over twelve weeks of age at its Dunmire Veterinary Clinic at the Homeward Pet facility. Washington law requires that all dog and cat owners provide proof of regular rabies vaccinations. Upon administration at our clinic, a certificate of vaccination is provided.

Hurry in and keep your pet—and others'—safe and healthy for romps in the leaves this fall.

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Homeward Pet Adoption Center is one of the leading non-profit, no-kill animal shelters in Washington State. Its mission is to give homeless animals a second chance through rescue, shelter and adoption. Since being founded in 1990, the shelter has matched over 28,000 animals with safe and loving families. With more than 350 volunteers, every cat and dog who comes to Homeward Pet receives an abundance of love, attention and care. For some animals that is more than they have ever known. Learn more at [www.homewardpet.org](http://www.homewardpet.org).