

## **THE HUNTED HUNTER**

### **Frequently Asked Questions Related to Rabies and Vaccination**

#### **ABOUT RABIES**

##### **What is rabies?**

- Rabies is a viral disease that attacks the central nervous system of warm-blooded animals, including humans.
- It can appear in two basic forms: dumb and furious rabies.  
In the dumb rabies form of the disease, an animal will show signs of depression and will try to hide in isolated places. Wild animals may lose their fear of humans and appear unusually friendly. The animal may have paralysis or have abnormal facial expressions or drooling.

In the furious rabies form, the animal may become very excited and aggressive. Periods of excitement usually alternate with periods of depression.

##### **How is it transmitted?**

- Rabies is transmitted through saliva, primarily via bite inflicted wounds. But it can also be spread by infected saliva entering an open cut or wound, or contacting a mucous membrane, such as those in the mouth, nasal cavity or eyes. The animals that most often transmit rabies are foxes, skunks, bats and raccoons.

##### **How long does it take to develop?**

- The incubation period, which is the time between exposure to the virus and the clinical disease, may be from two weeks to many months. Its length depends on a number of factors, including the strain of rabies and the location of the bite.

##### **Is the animal infectious during the incubation period?**

- An animal can be infectious a few days before showing clinical signs of rabies.