

Québec City, August 11, 2011

For the attention of the Mayor or General Manager

Re: Wild animal raccoon rabies vaccination initiatives in your territory, starting on August 15, 2011

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

This coming August, for the fifth consecutive year, the Québec Government will be spreading vaccine-laced bait capsules in Montérégie and the Eastern Townships, with a view to maintaining and reinforcing immunity against raccoon rabies among the raccoon, skunk and fox populations. The capsules will be spread either manually or by air, depending on the area concerned.

Aerial spreading

From August 15 to 18, 2011, low-flying aircraft will release approximately 740,000 vaccine-laced bait capsules over an area of roughly 7,125 km². The airborne operation will target mainly forest habitats in the 42 Eastern Townships municipalities and 50 Montérégie municipalities listed in the following pages.

Manual spreading

From August 22 to 31, 2011, teams from the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF) will visit an area of approximately 5,100 km², encompassing 82 municipalities in 11 regional county municipalities (RCMs), in order to deposit vaccine-laced bait capsules in natural habitats used by raccoons, skunks and foxes. The sites covered by the manual operation will include woodland areas, approaches to watercourses, the edges of cultivated fields and, occasionally, garbage cans! A list of the regions concerned appears in the following pages.

Vaccine-laced bait capsules

The vaccine-laced bait capsules used for the vaccination initiatives resemble large raviolis and measure roughly 40 mm x 22 mm x 10 mm. Because of their colour (khaki green), they blend into the environment and are difficult to spot once on the ground. They are also very solid, having been designed to resist the impact of aerial spreading. Normally, they need to be perforated in order to release the liquid vaccine centre; perforation occurs when the wild animals bite into them.



If the operation is to be successful, the general public should be made aware of the following guidelines:

- Please do not handle the vaccine-laced bait capsules. Although they are considered safe for humans, pets and the environment, they are intended for wild animals.
- If you come into contact with a perforated or broken bait capsule, please call the number shown on the capsule, or call **8-1-1** to speak to an Info-Santé officer.

The following general guidelines also apply:

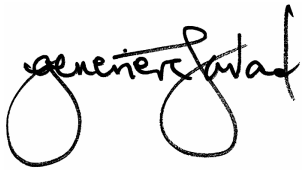
- Do not approach unknown pets or wild animals.
- If bitten by an animal, wash the wound with soap, under running water, for 10 minutes, and call 8-1-1 to speak to an Info-Santé officer.
- If you have a pet that goes outside, especially a dog or cat, see a vet to have the animal vaccinated against rabies.

- Make sure the contents of outdoor garbage cans are out of reach, so as not to attract wild animals to your home.
- **Report any dead, disoriented, unusually aggressive or paralyzed raccoon, skunk or fox to Services Québec by telephone (1 877 644-4545) or via the online form at www.rageduratonlaveur.gouv.qc.ca.**

Visit www.rageduratonlaveur.gouv.qc.ca for further information about raccoon rabies. Public information documents may also be ordered online. If you have questions about the operation, please call me at 418 627-8609, extension 3015.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Geneviève Savard
Communications Officer – Raccoon Rabies
Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune
Direction des communications
880, Chemin Sainte-Foy, 9^e étage
Québec City (Québec) G1S 4X4
Telephone: 418 627-8609, extension 3015
www.rageduratonlaveur.gouv.qc.ca

Appendix 1

List of municipalities in the Eastern Townships in which aerial spreading will take place on August 15 to 18, 2011

Ascot Corner
Austin
Ayer's Cliff
Barnston-Ouest
Bolton-Est
Bonsecours
Bury
Coaticook
Compton
Cookshire-Eaton
Dixville
East Angus
East Hereford
Eastman
Hatley
Lawrenceville
Magog
Martinville
Newport
North Hatley
Ogden

Orford
Potton
Racine
Saint-Benoît-du-Lac
Saint-Denis-de-Brompton
Sainte-Anne-de-la-Rochelle
Sainte-Catherine-de-Hatley
Sainte-Edwidge-de-Clifton
Saint-Étienne-de-Bolton
Saint-Herménégilde
Saint-Isidore-de-Clifton
Saint-Malo
Saint-Venant-de-Paquette
Sherbrooke
Stanstead
Stanstead-Est
Stoke
Stukely-Sud
Valcourt
Waterville
Westbury

Appendix 2

List of municipalities in Montérégie in which aerial spreading will take place on August 15 to 18, 2011

Abercorn	Ormstown
Akwesasne	Roxton Pond
Bedford	Saint-Alphonse-de-Granby
Béthanie	Saint-Anicet
Bolton-Ouest	Saint-Armand
Brigham	Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle
Brome	Saint-Chrysostome
Bromont	Saint-Cyprien-de-Napierville
Cowansville	Sainte-Cécile-de-Milton
Dundee	Sainte-Clotilde-de-Châteauguay
Dunham	Saint-Georges-de-Clarenceville
East Farnham	Saint-Joachim-de-Shefford
Elgin	Saint-Patrice-de-Sherrington
Franklin	Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix
Frelighsburg	Saint-Pierre-de-Véronne-à-Pike-River
Godmanchester	Saint-Sébastien
Granby	Saint-Valentin
Havelock	Shefford
Hemmingford	Stanbridge East
Henryville	Stanbridge Station
Hinchinbrooke	Sutton
Huntingdon	Très-Saint-Sacrement
Lac-Brome	Venise-en-Québec
Lacolle	Warden
Noyan	Waterloo

Appendix 3

List of municipalities in the Eastern Townships in which manual spreading will take place on August 22 to 31, 2011

- Only on the two shores of Lac Memphrémagog

Appendix 4

List of municipalities in Montérégie in which manual spreading will take place on August 22 to 31, 2011

Ange-Gardien	Saint-Armand
Beauharnois	Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle
Bedford	Saint-Blaise-sur-Richelieu
Brigham	Saint-Césaire
Bromont	Saint-Chrysostome
Brossard	Saint-Constant
Candiac	Saint-Cyprien-de-Napierville
Carignan	Saint-Damase
Chambly	Sainte-Angèle-de-Monnoir
Châteauguay	Sainte-Anne-de-Sabrevois
Cowansville	Sainte-Barbe
Delson	Sainte-Brigide-d'Iberville
Dunham	Sainte-Catherine
East Farnham	Sainte-Cécile-de-Milton
Farnham	Sainte-Clotilde-de-Châteauguay
Frelighsburg	Sainte-Martine
Godmanchester	Sainte-Sabine
Granby	Saint-Georges-de-Clarenceville
Hemmingford	Saint-Ignace-de-Stanbridge
Henryville	Saint-Isidore
Howick	Saint-Jacques-le-Mineur
Kahnawake	Saint-Jean-Baptiste
La Prairie	Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
Lacolle	Saint-Mathieu
Léry	Saint-Michel
Longueuil	Saint-Patrice-de-Sherrington
Marieville	Saint-Paul-d'Abbotsford
Mercier	Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix
Mont-Saint-Grégoire	Saint-Philippe
Napierville	Saint-Pie
Notre-Dame-de-Stanbridge	Saint-Pierre-de-Véronne-à-Pike-River
Noyan	Saint-Rémi
Ormstown	Saint-Sébastien
Richelieu	Saint-Stanislas-de-Kostka
Rougement	Saint-Urbain-Premier
Saint-Édouard	Saint-Valentin
Saint-Étienne-de-Beauharnois	Salaberry-de-Valleyfield
Saint-Alexandre	Stanbridge East
Saint-Alphonse-de-Granby	Stanbridge Station
Saint-Anicet	Venise-en-Québec