

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 2003

TO: Local Health Departments in the Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) Distribution Area

FROM: Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
State Public Health Veterinarian

RE: RABIES PUBLIC RELATIONS / MEDIA PACKET

Please find the attached materials for the public and providers related to the upcoming Oral Rabies Vaccine distribution which will occur mid-August through the end of September 2003. These materials include:

- Brochure: *Prevention Today for a Healthier Tomorrow: The West Virginia Oral Rabies Vaccination Project*
- General information sheet: *A Quick Glance at the West Virginia Oral Rabies Vaccination Project*
- map of the 2003 Appalachian Ridge bait drop zone
- Sample public meeting notice
- Memo regarding the legal authority to conduct the oral rabies vaccine bait drop
- Memos addressed to various individuals affected by the bait drop
- Press release for local media

Please feel free to reproduce these materials and distribute them to the appropriate groups.

A map of the current plan for the Appalachian Ridge vaccine bait drop area is attached to this email. West Virginia counties receiving baits include: Barbour, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Greenbrier, Hancock, Harrison, Kanawha, Lewis, Logan, Marion, Marshall, McDowell, Mingo, Monongalia, Nicholas, Ohio, Pleasants, Preston, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Webster, Wetzel and Wyoming.

Also, counties that received baits for hand distribution last year will receive them again this year. With these baits, counties will receive instructions on the areas that need hand-baiting, and approximate number of baits to be distributed in each area. You will be receiving these baits mid-September. Counties that assist in hand-baiting should bill the State \$206.00 on their **September** rabies invoice. Do not put hand-baiting activities on the October invoice. October 1, 2004 is the beginning of a new grant period.

If you have any questions related to the upcoming oral rabies vaccine distribution, please contact our office (304-558-5358) or visit the rabies website at http://www.wvdhhr.org/bph/oehp/sdc/rabies_orv.htm Thank you for your continued assistance in this important public health effort.