

# **...a quick glance at the west virginia ORAL RABIES VACCINATION project ...**

## **... what?**

The Oral Rabies Vaccination Project for raccoons is like any immunization program. Just as children are vaccinated against measles or mumps, raccoons can be vaccinated against rabies. The Oral Rabies Vaccination Project will distribute rabies vaccine-laced baits in August and September 2003 to halt the spread of raccoon rabies in West Virginia.

## **... who?**

The baits will be distributed by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, in cooperation with your local health department, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Ohio Department of Health, the New York State Department of Health, and many other state and local organizations.

## **... where?**

The baits will be dropped along a wide corridor through the central part of the state, extending from the northern panhandle to the southern coalfields. Involved counties include Barbour, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Hancock, Harrison, Kanawha, Lewis, Logan, Marshall, Marion, McDowell, Mingo, Monongalia, Nicholas, Ohio, Pleasants, Preston, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Webster, Wetzel, and Wyoming.

## **... when?**

The bait drop will take place during August and September 2003.

## **...what does the ORV bait look like?**



Bait containing oral rabies vaccine  
(dimensions 1 1/4" X 1 1/4" X 3/4")

The bait is a square block made of fish meal and fish oil. Raccoons like the smell and taste of the bait. The vaccine is inside a plastic packet in the middle of the block.

## **...how will the baits be dropped?**



The rabies baits will be dropped from specially equipped airplanes flying along predetermined flight patterns. There will be a baiting density of 75 baits per square kilometer.



If you have any questions or concerns about the West Virginia Oral Rabies Vaccination Project, or if you have come into contact with a bait, please contact the West Virginia ORV Project at:  
**1-800-423-1271**

*Flyer Revision Date: August 2003*