



Texas Department of State Health Services

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<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/region7/default.shtm>

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Vaccine Bait Drop to Reduce Skunk Rabies in East-Central Texas
Texas Department of State Health Services
Health Service Region 7

What	Bait with rabies vaccine inside will be dropped from planes for skunks to eat.
Start dates	The bait flights will start in late January in East-Central Texas.
Places	Planes flying from La Grange, TX airport
Counties	Bastrop, Brazos, Burleson, Fayette, Grimes, Lee, Madison, and Washington getting bait
Duration	The project will last about one week if the weather is good for flying.
Vaccine	The bait has rabies vaccine in it for skunks to eat. After they eat the vaccine, the skunks should not get sick from rabies, and they will not pass rabies to others animals and humans.
Baits	The bait looks like a ketchup packet with a light coat of fish crumbs on the outside. The vaccine is inside. Each packet has words on it that say: RABIES VACCINE LIVE VACCINIA VECTOR DO NOT DISTURB 1-877-722-6725 People can call that number if they have questions about the vaccine.
Bait amounts	150 baits per each square mile will be dropped in the counties
Flights per day	12 to 16
Airplanes	Five small white twin engine planes
Flight	The planes will fly 500 to 1000 feet above the ground. They will fly in straight heights lines a ½ mile apart.

Results The bait drop will happen because the health department wants to vaccinate more skunks against rabies. The first bait drop was in Fort Bend County in 2012. Results looked good. There were not as many rabies cases after the bait drop. You can find out more about rabies vaccine bait drops in Texas at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/rabies/orvp/> .

For more information call the Zoonosis Control Program at 254-778-6744 or email DSHS.HSR7.ZOO@dshs.state.tx.us.