



## **Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter**

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### **Rising Distemper Cases in Santa Cruz County SCCAS Encourages Pet Owners to Vaccinate Pets**

The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter (SCCAS) continues to see an increase in distemper cases in coyotes and racoons within Santa Cruz County. Animal Control Officers have been responding to cases predominately in Seabright neighborhoods, Aptos (Rio Del Mar), and New Brighton State Beach. Distemper is a contagious viral disease that affects a wide variety of animals and has no known cure. Dogs can be infected and the only way to prevent this is to vaccinate dogs against the virus.

SCCAS encourages pet owners to keep their pets up to date on vaccinations. Please visit your primary Veterinarian for vaccinations. For low-cost vaccination options, check with VIP Pet Care who offer low cost vaccination clinics at Pet Pals in Soquel, Wishbone Pet Company in Freedom, and Tractor Supply in Watsonville. Visit their website at [www.vippetcare.com/find-a-location/](http://www.vippetcare.com/find-a-location/).

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#### **About Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter (SCCAS)**

The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter is an open admission shelter which welcomes EVERY animal in need. Our goal is to be a humane resource for the community by providing a safety net and second chance for local animals. There are two locations where owners can find and recover lost pets, adopt new animal companions, or sign up for PLANNED PetHood, our low cost spay/neuter program available for all resident pets. Our success is achieved through a variety of life-saving services and programs which are described in detail on our website, [www.scanimalshelter.org](http://www.scanimalshelter.org). The support of our community is crucial to sustaining and expanding these services.