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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 24, 2016

Contact: Barbara Ilardi, Public Information Officer, (845)-808-1390

FREE Rabies Vaccination Clinic Scheduled for July 9

Brewster, NY- Bring your dogs, cats and ferrets to a FREE rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, July 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sponsored by the Putnam County Department of Health, the clinic is being held at Hubbard Lodge, 2880 Route 9, Cold Spring, N.Y. and is open to all Putnam County residents.

Please bring photo ID as proof of Putnam County residency, as well as written proof of prior rabies vaccination. Tags are not acceptable. If you do not have a written certificate documenting prior rabies vaccination, your pet will receive a one-year rabies vaccine. All dogs must be leashed and well-controlled and cats and ferrets must be in a carrier. An animal information/release form will be available and can be completed at the clinic site. For more information and directions, please call the Putnam County Department of Health at (845) 808-1390 ext. 43127.

Pet vaccination is important to protect your pets and prevent the spread of rabies, but the number-one reason for rabies treatments in Putnam County remains bat exposures. In warmer weather bats return to the local area and are more active and likely to get into homes. If you find a bat in your house, capture the bat and call the Putnam County Department of Health at (845) 808-1390. A staff person will assess your situation and if appropriate, arrange to test the bat for rabies, since this is the only way to avoid unnecessary treatment, a two-week series of shots. For more information about rabies and capturing a bat, visit the Putnam County website at <http://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/communicable/>.

The mission of the Putnam County Department of Health is to improve and protect the health of our community, composed of nearly 100,000 residents. Core services include community health assessment, disease surveillance and control, emergency preparedness, environmental health protection, family health promotion and health education. For more information, please visit our website at www.putnamcountyny.com/health; or visit our social media sites on Facebook at www.facebook.com/putnamhealth and Twitter @PutnamHealthNY.

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