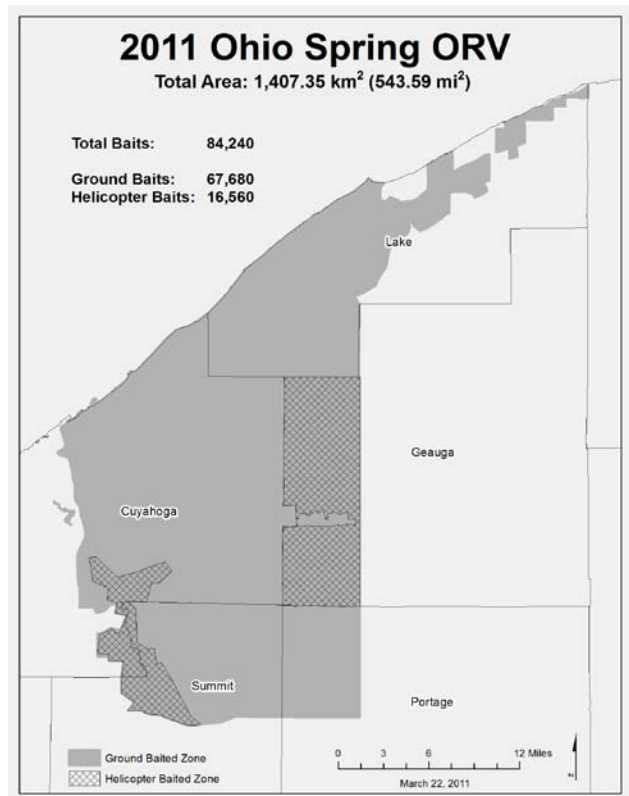


Ohio Oral Rabies Vaccination Program – May 2011

At-a-Glance

Background	<p>Rabies is a viral disease that affects animals and people and is still fatal in most cases. The raccoon-rabies variant (RRV) is of particular public health concern because it can infect many domestic animals and people. Ohio's effort to keep RRV from spreading throughout the state began in 1997. A vaccine that could be eaten by wild animals was used to create a barrier of immunized raccoons along Ohio's borders with Pennsylvania and West Virginia. This strategy was very successful and in subsequent years many other states including Pennsylvania and West Virginia also began programs. This multistate oral rabies vaccination (ORV) effort is coordinated by the United States Department of Agriculture's, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services (USDA-APHIS) and the Ohio Department of Health. Other major cooperators include local health departments (LHDs) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).</p>
Baiting Area	<p>ORV baits will be distributed in selected areas of Lake, Geauga, Cuyahoga, Portage, and Summit counties (see map).</p>
Start Date	<p>Baiting will begin May 2, 2011. Helicopter baiting will take about one day, weather permitting. Vehicle distribution of ORV baits may take up to 20 days, from May 2 through May 20, 2011.</p>
Bait Distribution	<p>Baits are delivered at a density of 75 baits per square kilometer (about one per 3.3 acres). Most of the baits will be delivered by LHD personnel in vehicles who will be delivering vaccine-laden baits in urban and suburban areas. An ODNR helicopter will also be distributing baits in less accessible areas, including parks and preserves. In all, 84,240 vaccine-laden baits will be distributed covering about 1,407 square kilometers or 544 square miles in Ohio.</p>
Program Partners	<p>Ohio departments of Health, and Natural Resources</p> <p>USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services Program</p> <p>Local Health Departments</p> <p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</p>



For more information, visit the Ohio Department of Health, United States Department of Agriculture web sites or Merial websites at:
<http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/dis/zoonoses/rabies/orv/orv1.aspx>
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage/oral_rabies/rabies_vaccine_info.shtml
<http://www.raboral.com/>