

ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SCHEDULED MEETING - NOVEMBER 17, 2015

The Animal Control Advisory Committee met on Tuesday November 17, 2015 at 6:00 PM at the Burke County Library. In attendance were: Bill Tinley, Jones "Scrap" Gresham, Larry Lewis, Stephen Murray, Kelly Jenkins, Sarah Ford, Carol Jones, and Monika Mobley. Jesse Stone was unable to attend. Minutes from the October 20, 2015 meeting were approved.

A packet was provided, containing the following reports from last month's assignments: (1) Carol Jones and Jones Gresham on working relationships with rescue groups; (2) Kelly Jenkins on the 2010 Old Fella operating budget; (3) Stephen Murray and Bill Tinley on animal ordinances from nearby counties; (4) Larry Lewis on animal complaint calls received by the Burke County Sheriff's Department; (5) Carol Jones on the requirements of the transport program for dogs. The reports are attached to these minutes.

All of these topics were openly discussed, with the following highlights noted.

Old Fella's budget in 2010 projected approximately \$52,000 in expenditures, with 94% going directly to animal-related programs and transport expenses and 6% in administrative overhead. Revenue sources at that time were primarily grants and direct donations. Since then, the Northeast Animal Shelter (which receives the transported dogs) has begun reimbursing \$70 for puppies and \$30 for adult dogs. This amount is not sufficient to cover the costs of each dog's preparation for transport, which averages about \$90.

The Sheriff's Department received 38 animal-related calls in 2013, 19 in 2014, and 22 (so far) in 2015. Larry Lewis noted that this is a large number of calls relative to other types of calls. Most of the calls are concerning bites, attacks, or other issues with vicious dogs. The frequency and nature of these calls demonstrates the need for a facility where dogs can be impounded.

Screven County was discussed as a good model, in several ways. Screven County's ordinances are comprehensive, including a definition of nuisance dogs, and a definition of the duties of Animal Control Officers. Screven County's shelter is adjacent to the jail, and trustee prisoners provide labor to reduce operating expenses. Their annual operating budget is just under \$100,000. There are two dedicated Animal Control Officers, who can issue citations. The County shelter cooperates with Friends of Screven County Animals (FOSCA), which operates its own shelter.

Larry Lewis noted that the shelter would need to be a short walking distance from the jail, because a deputy would be required to escort the trustees to and from the shelter. Sarah Ford noted that there is an unused basketball court that could be repurposed.

Sarah Ford, Kelly Jenkins, and Monika Mobley offered thoughts about shelter capacity, design, and the relationship to rescue organizations, based on their direct experience with these topics. Their guidance includes these points: (1) plan for a monthly intake of 50-80 animals; (2) have the shelter act as a triage entity, keeping animals for approximately 5 business days, not long term;

(3) work closely with rescues to give them an opportunity to move animals into foster care; (4) realize that incoming cats most likely will be eutvanized, as there is little likelihood of adoption or transport for cats; (5) utilize a simple design, with kennels covered but open to the outside air, not heated or air conditioned.

We also discussed the requirements of the transport program, where Old Fella sends an average of about 40 dogs monthly to the Northeast Animal Shelter in Salem, Massachusetts. They have specific requirements regarding acceptable breeds and temperaments. There are extensive medical requirements as well. A "triage" process needs to be developed where the shelter may euthanize dogs that are unadoptable or otherwise unsuitable for transport, but the rescue gets access to dogs that are suitable for transport. The shelter would relieve pressure on the rescue simply by being a place where incoming animals are received for the first few days, giving them time to make foster care arrangements.

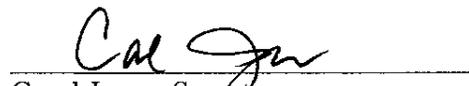
Lastly, Carol Jones proposed a structure and a set of topics for this committee's final report. The topics are derived from this committee's prior work, and also from the book Animal Control Management. Committee members volunteered to look at the topics as follows: (1) Organizational Structure – no one; (2) Capacity – Sarah; (3) Staffing – Kelly, Monika; (4) Management and Oversight – no one; (5) Shelter Design – Sarah; (6) Budget and Revenue Sources – Kelly; (7) Relationship to Rescues – Carol and Scrap; (8) Ordinances – Bill and Stephen; (9) Public Relations – no one. We agreed to work on these topics in December and to share drafts by email.

We will not hold a formal meeting in December, but instead continue working on the assigned topics and sharing information by email. Stephen Murray will be visiting the Columbia County Shelter. Visits to Screven County and possibly other shelters will be arranged in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM. The next scheduled meeting is January 19, 2016, at 6:00pm at the Burke County Library.



Bill Tinley, Chairman



Carol Jones, Secretary

Animal Control Advisory Committee Meeting
At The Burke County Library
6:00 P.M.
November 17th, 2015

AGENDA

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of last meeting minutes
3. Reports on information gathered
4. Recommendation for December
5. Discussion of visits to neighboring facilities
6. Other topics to research for information we need
7. Other
8. Adjourn

Research by Carol Jones and Jones Gresham

Part 1. Public vs. Non-Profit Responsibilities

Rescue groups and local governments each have distinctly different priorities regarding Animal Services. Rescue groups prioritize finding homes for unwanted or mistreated pets; they also prioritize reducing unwanted pet populations. Governments prioritize field services and short-term sheltering to protect people and animals from immediate danger.

With this distinction in mind, there are several possible approaches to management of an Animal Services operation:

1. **A shelter operated by a rescue organization independently.**

Where a large and financially secure rescue organization exists, it may be able to operate a shelter independent of local government. However, for smaller rescue organizations, this model is out of reach because of financial and staffing limitations.

As one example, **Old Fella / Burke County Animal Rescue (OFBCAR)** currently spends \$45-55K annually, with most of those expenditures going directly toward animal welfare programs (transport, spay and neuter, trap-neuter-return, and education).

Operating a building and paying salaries could easily triple that budget, without increasing the number of animals rescued. This group is unlikely to be capable of raising such an amount of money on its own.

Girard Lifesaver does successfully operate its own shelter for dogs, but not on a scale that could handle the entire volume of Burke County's unwanted animals.

Neither group has Animal Control field services as its main mission.

For Burke County, we don't see this model being viable because local organizations lack the financial resources¹ and staff that would be needed.

2. **A shelter operated by county government alone.** Most Georgia counties operate a shelter, or at least have a city shelter within their borders². Counties with larger populations sometimes operate shelters with successful adoption programs but smaller counties generally do not.

Shelters that do not work closely with local rescue organizations tend to have a very high kill rate because they must prioritize short-term sheltering, over

adoption programs. We recently observed this in Richmond County, and also in Waynesboro in the early 2000's.

Adoption programs increase costs for food, medical care, space, and staff time. Local governments lack the experience and devotion that a rescue organization can bring to bear.

This model is not desirable in terms of public relations and animal welfare.

3. **A shelter operated by both working cooperatively.** The County needs rescue organizations for moving animals into new homes. The rescue organizations need the County to provide facilities and staff. In the next section, we will look at several ideas for how the cooperation might be structured.

Part 2. Models for Cooperation

Next we consider the major tasks involved in Animal Control operations, and how the work might be divided between public and non-profit partners:

Tasks:

1. Constructing and maintaining the building and grounds
2. Managing intake of dogs and cats (pick-up of stray or vicious animals and accepting owner surrenders)
3. Quarantine and testing of incoming animals to prevent spread of disease
4. Short-term medical care as required, such as treatment of injured animals, deworming or initial vaccines
5. Disposition of vicious animals
6. Holding animals as required by the Court System
7. Holding lost animals and insuring that they are given only to legitimate owners
8. Cleaning and disinfection of facilities
9. Animal feeding and exercise
10. Identification of adoption or transport candidates
11. Ongoing medical care and socialization of adoptable and transportable animals
12. Matching adoptable pets to new owners, and managing public access to the shelter facility
13. Proper record keeping for all intakes, adoptions, lost and found animals, euthanized animals, transports, microchipping, etc.

The tasks could be divided in several ways:

A. Placement Partners Model

In Richmond County, there is a non-profit called Dog Networking Agents (DNA), which places adoptable dogs and cats from the City of Augusta Animal Services shelter, into new homes. DNA volunteers go into the shelter, select animals, place them into very short-term foster homes, and host adoption events at a pet supply store in Augusta. Animals not adopted are returned to the shelter. DNA does not operate a shelter facility of its own, and foster homes are typically used only for a few days at a time.

In Burke County this model isn't likely to work because we do not have a large enough population to make adoption matches likely. Typically, there are only about 10 foster volunteers available and these are overextended.³

B. Outsourcing Model

In recent years, Old Fella Burke County Animal Rescue proposed to provide all animal control services for unincorporated areas of Burke County. Essentially they would cover all tasks except building construction and maintenance, for a fee of \$175,000 annually. The County would maintain the building and contribute inmate labor for feeding and cleaning tasks. ***This proposal has been rejected at least twice by the County Commission.***

C. Shared Facility Model

In this proposal, the rescue shares part of the shelter space in exchange for performing some services.

Initially, the County takes responsibility for incoming animals for a short period of time, perhaps 5-7 days. Care during those days is performed at the County's expense.

At that point, a contracted rescue organization would select animals for transport or foster care. It would provide all further care and record keeping at its own expense. Ideally it would use a specific section of the County's shelter facility to house the animals.

While foster homes would still be used, this approach would reduce pressure on the foster volunteers. It would also create new volunteer opportunities for students or others who are unable to foster.

In this model, the County is subcontracting a portion of the shelter operation to a rescue; both work together in one shelter. The relationship should be governed by a contract with one rescue⁴, rather than opening the facility to many groups with many relationships to manage. The Buncombe County (NC) Animal Shelter and the Asheville Humane Society partner in a model similar to this.

Part 3. Transport Program

Old Fella Burke County Animal Rescue (OFBCAR) operates a transport program called "Dixie Dogs". Transports take place almost every month typically involving 40 or more dogs. The receiving agency is Northeast Animal Shelter (NEAS), Salem, Massachusetts. Dogs come from many sources: owner surrenders, county dumps, the City of Waynesboro shelter, and other rescues (Girard Lifesaver, Screven and Bulloch counties).

Preparing each dog for transport costs about \$90 on average. NEAS reimburses \$30 for adults and \$70 for puppies. The shortfall is covered by OFBCAR funds from grants and donations.

NEAS determines which breeds, what medical status, and how many dogs they are willing to accept. Dogs are often bumped from the transport list, causing them to incur additional costs when they are held over for a later transport. For example, some tests for parasites and diseases are time sensitive, and must be performed within 30 days of transport. These tests must be repeated for dogs at additional cost.

Detailed records are required for each dog, documenting its medical history and temperament. Examples are attached to this report to illustrate the record keeping and detailed preparation that is required for each transport dog.

The Dixie Dogs program demonstrates why a close cooperation between the public shelter and the non-profit rescue is so important. It is highly unlikely that 40 of Burke County's unwanted dogs would find homes every month through adoption alone; a successful transport program is their only outlet.

OFBCAR now has many years of experience with the foster and transport program, and leveraging such knowledge is critical for a successful Animal Services program.

Notes:

1. Financial data from both organizations is published at <http://www.guidestart.org>.
2. See <http://gawatchdog.com/blog/animal-shelters/> for a directory of animal shelters by county.
3. Waynesboro: 2; Sardis: 1; Midville 1; Blythe: 3; Shell Bluff: 1; Girard: 2
4. See the book Animal Control Management: A New Look at a Public Responsibility by Stephen Aronson, which includes chapters on contracting for animal services and contract provisions, and all other aspects of managing animal services in local governments.

2010 ESTIMATED OLD FELLA OPERATING BUDGET

Line	REVENUE	total	percent	Line	EXPENSES	total	percent
1	DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS			1	PROGRAMS		
2	Businesses	4,000.00		2	Vet Care (Exams, Vaccinations, etc)	25,000.00	
3	Individuals (Checks, Paypal)	15,000.00		3	Health Certificates	1,550.00	
4	subtotal: direct contributions	19,000.00	33.9%	4	Food	500.00	
5	FUNDRAISERS			5	Crates, Kennels, etc.	200.00	
6	Event Sales and Solicitations	7,000.00		6	Shots, Wormer	5,000.00	
7	Merchandise for Donations	500.00		7	Spay Neuter Surgeries	10,000.00	
8	Mail Solicitations	3,000.00		8	Humane Education	1,000.00	
9	Donation Boxes	500.00		9	Training	500.00	
10	subtotal: fundraisers	11,000.00	19.6%	10	Site Improvement (Future Shelter/Clinic)	1,000.00	
11	OTHER			11	subtotal: programs	44,750.00	85.2%
12	Adoptions	2,000.00		12	VEHICLE/TRANSPORTATION		
13	Membership Dues	1,000.00		13	Fuel and Rental	3,500.00	
14	Online Contests & Misc.	500.00		14	Insurance	900.00	
15	subtotal: other	3,500.00	6.3%	15	subtotal: vehicle	4,400.00	8.4%
16	GRANTS			16	ADMINISTRATIVE		
17	Planters	2,500.00		17	Liability Insurance	850.00	
18	PetSmart	7,000.00		18	Contingency	500.00	
19	PetCo Foundation	1,000.00		19	Audit and Professional Services	500.00	
20	Wal-Mart	1,000.00		20	Communications and Supplies	500.00	
21	CSRA Community Foundation	6,000.00		21	Advertising, Publications and Printing	500.00	
22	Other	5,000.00		22	Dues, Fees, Licenses and Renewals	500.00	
23	subtotal: grants	22,500.00	40.2%	23	subtotal: administrative	3,350.00	6.4%
24		-		24		-	
25	TOTAL REVENUE	56,000.00		25	TOTAL EXPENSES	52,500.00	

BCSO ANIMAL COMPLAINT CALLS 2013

4042 HWY 25 NORTH, HEPHZIBAH, GA 30815- VICIOUS DOG
305 OJ BLVD, WAYNESBORO, GA 30830- AGGRESSIVE DOG
1180 IDLEWOOD ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE
232 KILPATRICK RD, WAYNESBORO, GA – VICIOUS ANIMALS
879 MANDERSON CIRCLE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- ANIMAL NUSIANCE COMPLAINT
130 MILHAVEN ROAD, GIRARD, GA- ANIMAL NUISANCE COMPLAINT
348 ROSSIER DRIVE, HEPHZIBAH, GA - AGGRESSIVE DOG COMPLAINT
2311 FARMERS BRIDGE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- TROUBLE WITH NEIGHBOR’S DOG
702 OJ BLVD, WAYNESBORO, GA 30830- VICIOUS CANINE ATTACK
2515 PINE NEEDLE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA - LOOSE CANINE
199 COUNTRY LANE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- ANIMAL (DOG) BITE
CATES MEAD ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA 30830- DOG BITE
214 KILPATRICK STREET, WAYNESBORO, GA 30830- LOOSE CANINES AGGRESSIVE
264 KEYS LANE, HEPHZIBAH, GA 30815- LIVESTOCK KILLED BY STRAY DOGS
348 ROSIER DRIVE, HEPHZIBAH, GA 30815- DAMAGE CAUSED BY DOGS
667 OJ BLVD, WAYNESBORO, GA - DOG ATTACK
1513 CLAXTON LIVELY ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA 30830- DOG ATTACK
170 CEMETERY ROAD, SARDIS, GA 30456 - DOG BITE
635 OJ BLVD, WAYNESBORO, GA- CAINE ATTACKED (HORSE)
10320 HWY 23 SOUTH, GIRARD, GA 30815- CAT BIT
143 EAGLE NEST ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- VICIOUS DOGS
2311 FARMERS BRIDGE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA 30830- DOG BITE
KEYSVILLE BOGGS ACADEMY ROAD, KEYSVILLE, GA-DOG BITE
807 MANDERSON CIRCLE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- LOOSE CANINES
215 MOXLEYVILLE ROAD, BLYTHE, GA- DOG BITE

370 POOLE MELTON ROAD, BLYTHE, GA – DOGS ATTACKED LIVESTOCK

124 LOT 6 HWY 56 NORTH, WAYNESBORO, GA- VICIOUS DOG

110 BLUE BIRD LANE WAYNESBORO, GA - VICIOUS DOGS

934 PERKINS ROAD, KEYSVILLE, GA- DOG BITE

141 WHITEHEAD STREET, GOUGH, GA – DOG ATTACKED ANOTHER DOG

106 SCARLETT OAKS DRIVE, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG ACTING VERY AGGRESSIVE

349 KILPATRICK ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

2500 BLCK OF PINE TOP RD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- DOG BITE

2079 SUSIE BAILEY ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- AGGRESSIVE DOGS

3112 LOT 2 FARMERS BRIDGE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- DOG BITE

1017 MCMANUS ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- DOGS KILLING LIVESTOCK

460 POOLE MELTON ROAD, BLYTHE, GA 30805- DOG ATTACKED BY NEIGHBORS DOG

170 MAMIE JOE LANE, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

BCSO ANIMAL COMPLAINT CALLS 2014

825 OLD WAYNESBORO ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

1454 BATES ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- AGGRESSIVE DOG

640 POOLE MELTON ROAD, BLYTHE, GA- DOG KILLING THE COMPLAINANT'S DOGS

380 GA HWY 88, KEYSVILLE, GA- KESVILLE COUNTRY STORE- STRAY DOG TRYING TO BITE CUSTOMERS

864 MANDERSON CIRCLE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- LOOSE DOG HARMING LIVESTOCK (CHICKENS)

775 OLD MILLEN HWY, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

2518 PINE NEEDLE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- DOG RUNNING LOOSE (AGGRESSIVELY)

245 MORRIS DRIVE, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG RUNNING LOOSE ATTACKED HER SIBERIAN HUSKY

861 GRIFFIN LANDING RD, GIRARD, GA- DOG BITE

3057 HANCOCK LANDING ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG KILLING A CHICKEN & CALVES

339 NEELY ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

MUNNERLYN-ALEXANDER ROAD- WAYNESBORO GA- DOG BITE

2344 HWY 25 NORTH, WAYNESBORO GA- DOG BITE

SHADY OAK LANE, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

124 LOVERS LANE, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

3229 FARMERS BRIDGE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- DOG BITE

1231 NATHAN HOWARD ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG ATTACKED ANOTHER DOG

161 SANDY BRANCH ROAD LOT 9, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

842 MANDERSON CIRCLE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- DOG BITE

BCSO ANIMAL COMPLAINT CALLS 2015

168 EAST LEE STREET, MIDVILLE, GA- DOG BITE

414 ALMA ROAD, MILLEN, GA - AGGRESSIVE DOG

2756 STONEY BLUFF ROAD, GIRARD, GA- DOG BITE

399 BARTLETT ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA – AGGRESSIVE DOG

818 IDLEWOOD ROAD, LOT A, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG DAMAGED NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY

327 WEST FOUR POINTS ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA – DOG ATTACKED A GOAT KILLING IT.

374 LAZY ACRES DRIVE, HEPHZIBAH, GA-COMPLAINANT'S DOG ATTACKED BY NEIGHBOR'S DOG.

2473 HANCOCK LANDING ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOGS DAMAGED THE COPLAINANT'S UNDERPINNING TO THE (COMPL) TRAILER.

2571 HANCOCK LANDING ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- COMPLAINANT'S DOG WAS KILLED BY SEVERAL OTHER DOGS.

1192 SEVEN OAKS ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- DOG BITE

851 MANDERSON CIRCLE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- THE COMPLAINANT'S (L SMITH) DOG WAS KILLED BY THE NEIGHBOR'S DOG.

188 BATES ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA- NEIGHBOR'S DOGS COMING OVER AND GETTING INTO THE COMPLAINANT'S GARDEN.

217 MARY STREET, MIDVILLE, GA- THE COMPLAINANT (REESE) WAS BITTEN BY (GINA DURDEN'S) DOG.

GA HWY 24 SOUTH, WAYNESBORO, GA- (JUVENILE) VICTIM WAS BITTEN A NEIGHBOR'S DOG.

199 OLD WAYNESBORO ROAD, KEYSVILLE, GA- SEVERAL DOGS CAME ONTO HER PROPERTY AND KILLED ONE OF HER CATS.

1182 CLARKS PLACE ROAD, WAYNESBORO, GA – THE COMPLAINANT (ROSIE A. ORTIZ) STATED THAT A VICIOUS DOG CAME ONTO HER PROPERTY AND KILLED ONE OF HER PET CATS.

2093 BOGGS ACADEMY, KEYSVILLE, GA-DOG WAS SHOT OR BIT BY A SNAKE.

1051 BAILEY ROAD, LOUISVILLE, GA- STRAY BULL DOG BIT THE VICTIM'S (JUVENILE) LOWER STOMACH AREA.

2367 FARMERS BRIDGE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA- THE COMPLAINANT'S DOG WAS CHASING THE NEIGHBOR'S DOG AND RAN OUT INTO THE STREET AND GOT HIT BY A CAR.

210 DEER RUN DRIVE, HEPHZIBAH, GA- THE NEIGHBOR'S DOG DID COME INTO THE COMPLAINANT'S YARD AND JUMPED ON HER SMALL DOG CAUSING INJURIES.

293 STRIP LANE, WAYNESBORO, GA- THE JUVENILE VICTIM WAS BEING TREATED FOR A DOG BITE TO HER RIGHT HAND.

3623 FARMERS BRIDGE ROAD, HEPHZIBAH, GA 30815- THE COMPLAINANT STATED THAT THE DOG BELONGS TO HIS PARENTS NEIGHBOR'S CONTINUOUSLY CHARGES TOWARDS HIS PARENTS.

Chapter 18

ANIMALS*

- Sec. 18-1. Definitions.
- Sec. 18-2. Bird sanctuary; shooting, trapping of birds.
- Sec. 18-3. Prohibited conduct.
- Sec. 18-4. Livestock prohibited.
- Sec. 18-5. Fowl running at large.
- Sec. 18-6. Enclosures for animals and fowl.
- Sec. 18-7. Leash law.
- Sec. 18-8. Animals in parks.
- Sec. 18-9. Prohibitions for domestic animals.
- Sec. 18-10. Removal of animal wastes; animal carcasses.
- Sec. 18-11. Guard dogs.
- Sec. 18-12. Identification and inoculation.
- Sec. 18-13. No animal giveaway.
- Sec. 18-14. Obstruction of officer.
- Sec. 18-15. Abuse of animals.
- Sec. 18-16. Fees.
- Sec. 18-17. Penalties.
- Sec. 18-18. Power to issue citations.
- Sec. 18-19. Injured animals.
- Sec. 18-20. Impoundment of animals.
- Sec. 18-21. Disposition of impounded animals.
- Sec. 18-22. Confinement of biting animals.
- Sec. 18-23. Redemption of impounded animals.
- Sec. 18-24. Escape, injury or theft.
- Sec. 18-25. Records.
- Sec. 18-26. Title and purpose; dangerous dog control.
- Sec. 18-27. Exceptions.
- Sec. 18-28. Classification as dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog; notice to owner.
- Sec. 18-29. Requirements for possession of dangerous or potentially dangerous dog.
- Sec. 18-30. Registration of dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs.
- Sec. 18-31. Transfer of ownership or possession.
- Sec. 18-32. Notice to dog control officer.
- Sec. 18-33. Restraints when outside proper enclosure.
- Sec. 18-34. Confiscation and disposition of dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs.

***State law references**—Livestock running at large or straying, O.C.G.A. § 4-3-1 et seq.; permitting dogs in heat to roam or run free, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-6; Dangerous Dog Control Law, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-20 et seq.; Georgia Animal Protection Act, O.C.G.A. § 4-11-1 et seq.; cruelty to animals, O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4; control of rabies, O.C.G.A. § 31-19-1 et seq.; liability of owner or keeper of vicious or dangerous animal for injuries caused by animal, O.C.G.A. § 51-2-7.

Sec. 18-1. Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter:

Animal control officer means the officer or other individual selected by the city to aid in the administration and enforcement of this chapter.

At large means an animal that is not confined or contained in an enclosure, structure, housing, pen and/or fenced area.

City means the City of Waynesboro, Georgia.

Confined means in an enclosure or secured by a leash which shall have a length not more than four times the length of the animal, and which shall be free from obstructions. All domestic animals shall be provided with sanitary shelter from the elements and with water at all times.

Dangerous dog means any dog which has without provocation inflicted severe injury on a human being or, if such dog has previously been classified as a potentially dangerous dog, has aggressively bitten, attacked or endangered the safety of a human being without provocation.

Dog control officer means the officer or other individual selected by the city to aid in the administration and enforcement of this chapter.

Domestic animal means any dog, cat, or other legally owned animal not defined as wildlife, livestock, or nontraditional livestock.

Enclosure means in a building, pen or fenced area or other structure built to prevent intrusion or escape by any dog or other animal.

Guard dog means any dog which has been trained to attack persons or other animals independently or upon verbal command and any dog which, while not so trained, is reasonably expected to perform as a guardian of the property upon and within which the dog is located.

Livestock means cattle, swine, equines, poultry, sheep, goats, ratites, nontraditional livestock and ruminants.

Nontraditional livestock means the species of artiodactyla (even-toed ungulates) listed as bison, water buffalo, farmed deer, llamas and alpacas that are held and possessed legally and in a manner which is not in conflict with the provisions of O.C.G.A. title 27, ch. 5, relating to wild animals.

Owner means any person who owns, keeps, harbors, possesses, or has custody or control of any domestic, nontraditional livestock or livestock animal, or any person who knowingly permits any domestic, nontraditional livestock or livestock animal to be kept, harbored, possessed, or otherwise kept upon his/her premises, or who has any animal under his or her care or responsibility, either temporarily or permanently, at any time, within the City of Waynesboro. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any adult at whose residence an animal is kept or found shall be presumed to be an owner of such animal and shall have the

burden of rebutting such presumption. If an animal has more than one owner, any one of such owners may be prosecuted for violations of this chapter whether or not any other owners are also prosecuted.

Person means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, joint venture, association, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate or other group or combination acting as a unit.

Potentially dangerous dog means any dog with a propensity, tendency or disposition to make unprovoked attacks, cause injuries or otherwise threaten the safety of any human being. The term "potentially dangerous dog" shall also mean any dog which, when unprovoked, bites a human being or chases or approaches a human being on any public property in a vicious or terrorizing manner in an apparent attitude of an attack.

Proper enclosure means an enclosure for keeping a dog while on the owner's property in a securely enclosed and locked pen, fence, or structure suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the dog from escaping. Any such pen or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top, or, if the dog is enclosed within a fence, all sides of the fence shall be of sufficient height and the bottom of the fence shall be constructed or secured in such a manner as to prevent the dog's escape either from over or from under the fence. The structure shall further provide appropriate protection from the elements for the dog.

Severe injury means any injury which results in a broken bone, lacerations severe enough to require multiple sutures or to render cosmetic surgery necessary or appropriate, or death.

Under control means any animal that is controlled by a leash when off the property of the owner, or is within the passenger area of a vehicle driven or parked on the streets, or is within the property limits of its owner and is confined or attended by its owner, or confined within the property limits of another with the permission of the person in control of the property.

Wildlife means any vertebrate or invertebrate animal life indigenous to the State of Georgia or any species introduced or specified by the department of natural resources, including, but not limited to, fish (except domestic fish produced by an aqua culturist registered under O.C.G.A. § 27-4-255), mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, crustaceans and mollusks.
(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 1, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-2. Bird sanctuary; shooting, trapping of birds.

The entire area embraced within the corporate limits of the city is hereby designated as a bird sanctuary. It shall be unlawful for any person to trap, hunt, kill, shoot or attempt to shoot, or molest in any manner any wild bird or fowl or remove eggs from a bird's nest or fowl's nest; provided, however, if starlings or similar birds are found to be congregating in such numbers in a particular locality so as to constitute a nuisance or a menace to health or property in the opinion of the proper health authorities of Burke County, such birds may be destroyed as humanely as possible in such numbers and in such manner as is deemed advisable by the health authorities under the supervision of the animal control officer.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 2, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-3. Prohibited conduct.

It shall be unlawful for any person to trap, hunt, kill, shoot or attempt to shoot, or molest in any manner any wildlife in the corporate limits of the city except by order of the chief of police.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 3, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-4. Livestock prohibited.

It shall be unlawful to keep livestock or nontraditional livestock in the corporate limits of the city. It shall be unlawful to bring livestock or nontraditional livestock into the corporate limits of the city unless said livestock is contained within a truck, trailer, or similar enclosure.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 4, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-5. Fowl running at large.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any fowl to permit said animals to run at large in the corporate limits of the city or to stray from the property of the owner or keeper or to go upon the premises of any other person.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 5, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-6. Enclosures for animals and fowl.

Any housing or enclosure used for the keeping of animals or fowl shall be properly drained, free from accumulations of animal excrement and objectionable odors, and otherwise clean and sanitary.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 6, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-7. Leash law.

It shall be unlawful for any owner not to have his domestic animal under control, as defined in this chapter. All domestic animals shall be controlled by a leash unless:

- (1) The domestic animal is contained within a properly ventilated passenger area of a vehicle driven or parked on the streets;
- (2) The domestic animal is within the property limits of its owner and is confined or attended to by its owner;
- (3) The domestic animal is confined within the property limits of another with the permission of the person in control of the property.

Any leash shall have a length not more than four times the length of the domestic animal.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 7, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-8. Animals in parks.

It shall be unlawful for any person to bring a domestic animal into the confines of any park located in the city that is not on a leash and under the direct control of its owner or keeper, as "under control" is defined in this chapter.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 8, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-9. Prohibitions for domestic animals.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to permit a domestic animal under his or her ownership or possession to do the following:

- (1) Travel upon the property of any person other than its owner or keeper without the express consent of such other owner or occupant;
- (2) Attack or act so as to menace pedestrians or other persons using public ways or on the property of another;
- (3) Disturb the peace of any other person or neighbor by loud, persistent, habitual barking, howling, growling, yelping, or whining;
- (4) Defecate or urinate upon the property of another;
- (5) Be in heat and not be confined in an enclosure on the property of its owner or keeper.

(b) Any person convicted of violating subsection (a) or (b) of this section, in addition to the penalties provided for within this chapter, shall be required to maintain the domestic animal in a proper enclosure, as defined in this chapter.

(c) No person shall be charged with violating subsection (c) of this section unless written warning has previously been issued to the owner by the animal control officer within 60 days of the charged violation.

(d) No citation for violation of this section shall be issued unless there are at least two complaining witnesses who shall have signed a written statement stating the address of the animal owner, a description of the animal and of the offense and the date, time and location of the offense.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 9, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-10. Removal of animal wastes; animal carcasses.

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any domestic animal to refuse or fail to immediately remove any feces deposited by such animal upon public sidewalks, public streets, public parks or other public property in the city.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner on private property within the city any animal excrement.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to place the carcass of any animal in any stream, road, alley or other public place, or to place any such carcass upon the premises of another in the city, or on one's own property, without burying it at least three feet below the ground level, with not less than three feet of earth over the carcass.

(d) It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of a domestic animal or fowl which has died within the city to fail or refuse to bury the carcass thereof deep enough to prevent stench therefrom, within 12 hours after the death of such animal or fowl.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 10, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-11. Guard dogs.

It shall be the duty of the owner or tenant of any commercial property on which a guard dog is kept for security purposes to post a notice in a prominent and conspicuous location on such property. Such notice shall comprise the words "Warning Guard Dog" and shall be in clearly contrasting color. Such letters shall be not less than one inch in width and not less than five inches in height. If a guard dog is confined within a fenced area, such notice shall be conspicuously posted upon such fence at every entrance and exit of the fenced area.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 11, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-12. Identification and inoculation.

It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess or maintain any dog or cat that does not have a current rabies inoculation (at least once every 12 months) and any such dog or cat shall wear at all times a securely attached collar about its neck displaying such current rabies tag and a proper identification tag. The identification tag shall list the owner's name and address.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 12, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-13. No animal giveaway.

No person in the city shall give away any live domestic animal, fish, reptile or bird as a prize for, or as an inducement to enter, any contest, game, or other competition, or as an inducement to enter a place of amusement, or offer such animal as an incentive to enter into any business agreement whereby the offer was for the purpose of attracting trade.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 13, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-14. Obstruction of officer.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to hinder, interfere, harass or otherwise obstruct the performance of any officer of the city in the official performance of his or her duties as provided for in this chapter.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to relocate, interfere with, or alter the operation of any device, equipment, or item of the animal control officer.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to place their own animal into or remove any animal confined within a trap or cage operated by the animal control officer.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any person to give a false name, address or date of birth to any officer, employee or agent of the city in the lawful discharge of his or her official duties with the intent to mislead such officer, employee or agent in any way.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 14, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-15. Abuse of animals.

The animal control officer shall be authorized to enforce the provisions of Title 4, Chapter 11, Article 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, entitled "the Georgia Animal Protection Act" (O.C.G.A. § 4-11-1 et seq.).

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 15, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-16. Fees.

(a) Except as provided by section 18-34(c), any person reclaiming a neutered male dog, spayed female dog, or any other animal shall pay a \$25.00 impoundment fee for the first impoundment, \$30.00 for the second impoundment and \$35.00 for each subsequent impoundment. In addition to the above, \$10.00 per day will be charged for boarding plus the cost of inoculations and/or veterinary services.

(b) Except as provided by section 18-34(c), any person reclaiming an unneutered male or unspayed female dog shall pay \$50.00 for the first impoundment, \$75.00 for the second impoundment, and \$100.00 for each subsequent impoundment. In addition to the above, \$10.00 per day will be charged for boarding plus the cost of inoculations and/or veterinary services.

(c) There shall be a registration fee of \$100.00 for all dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs in the city. Such registration is to be renewed on an annual basis.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 16, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-17. Penalties.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, any person violating this chapter shall be punished pursuant to the provisions of section 1-8.

(b) Any person violating section 18-9(b), 18-29 or 18-33 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$200.00 for the first offense and not less than \$300.00 for any subsequent offenses in addition to any confinement permitted under section 1-8.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 17, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-18. Power to issue citations.

Officers of the city police department and the animal control officer are hereby authorized to issue a summons relative to the enforcement of the chapter.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 18, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-19. Injured animals.

The animal control officer shall have the authority to humanely dispose of impounded animals which are diseased or injured, whenever it shall appear that any such animal is suffering great pain and whenever the animal does not bear a tag identifying the owner and no determination as to the owner can be made with a reasonable inquiry or investigation. (Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 19, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-20. Impoundment of animals.

Except as otherwise provided for by the laws of the State of Georgia, any domestic animal, nontraditional livestock or livestock that is in violation of this chapter, whether or not the animal is on public or private property, may be, but is not required to be, impounded by the animal control officer or officers of the city police department in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter. (Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 20, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-21. Disposition of impounded animals.

(a) The animal control officer shall be authorized to dispose of any animal in as humane and painless a manner as possible if such animal has remained unclaimed for five days after impoundment and the animal has not been adopted after impoundment. If possible, the animal control officer may donate any unclaimed animal to a nonprofit institution or agency for the purpose of humane placement or rescue.

(b) No live animal in the possession of the animal control officer shall be released, sold or given to any individual, institution, or private firm for the purposes of medical and scientific research. (Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 21, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-22. Confinement of biting animals.

(a) Any animal that is known to have bitten or scratched a person shall be confined for the purpose of rabies observation to an animal control facility, a veterinary facility or to such other facility as may be directed by the animal control officer for a period of ten days after the date of the bite or scratch. All expenses incurred for such confinement and observation shall be paid by the owner of such animal.

(b) The animal control officer shall be authorized to order the owner of any dog that is known to have bitten a person to submit the dog for rabies observation to an animal control facility, a veterinary facility, or to such other facility as may be approved by the animal control officer. (Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 22, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-23. Redemption of impounded animals.

It shall be the responsibility of the animal control officer to attempt to notify the owner, if known, or can be reasonably ascertained, of the animal impounded, by telephone if possible, or by mail or by written notice at the residence of the owner within three business days of the impoundment. The owner of the animal may claim and take custody of the animal within five days of such impoundment by the payment of required fees and the cost of inoculations and veterinary services.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 23, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-24. Escape, injury or theft.

Employees of the city shall exercise reasonable care to prevent the injury, escape or theft of any animal which is in their custody or which they are attempting to bring into their custody under the provisions of this chapter, but they shall not be responsible for any such occurrence.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 24, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-25. Records.

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer to keep written records showing the final disposition of all animals impounded thereby, the date of impoundment, the description and other identifying data of the animal, the fees collected, the disposition of the animal and the date thereof.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 25, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-26. Title and purpose; dangerous dog control.

The purpose of sections 18-26 through 18-34 shall be to implement the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 4-8-20 et seq., the "Dangerous Dog Control Law." Violations of the Dangerous Dog Control Law shall be punishable as provided in section 18-17.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 26, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-27. Exceptions.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 18-1, no dog shall be classified as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog within the meaning of this chapter as a result of an injury upon a human being inflicted at a time when the dog was being used by a law enforcement officer to carry out the law enforcement officer's official duties. No dog shall be considered a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog within the meaning of this chapter as a result of an injury inflicted by the dog upon a person who, at the time of injury, was committing a willful trespass or other tort; who was tormenting, abusing or assaulting the dog or had done so in the past; or who was attempting to commit a crime. If the person injured is a child of tender years, the age, understanding, and capacity of such child shall be considered to determine whether such child was capable of committing a willful trespass or other tort or a crime.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 27, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-28. Classification as dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog; notice to owner.

(a) When the dog control officer classifies any dog as a dangerous dog or a potentially dangerous dog under this chapter, the dog control officer shall notify the dog's owner of such classification. The notice to the owner shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) The notice shall be in writing and mailed by certified mail to the owner's last known address;
- (2) The notice shall include a summary of the dog control officer's findings that form the basis for the dog's classification as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog;
- (3) The notice shall be dated and shall state that the owner has a right to request a hearing on the classification within 15 days from the date of the notice;
- (4) The notice shall state that the city council shall conduct the hearing;
- (5) The notice shall state that if the owner does not request such a hearing within 15 days from the date of the notice, the classification of the dog as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall be final and conclusive for all purposes;
- (6) The notice shall include a form to request a hearing before the city council and shall provide specific instructions on mailing or delivering such a request.

If a dog has more than one owner, notice to one owner shall be sufficient for purposes of this subsection (a).

(b) When the city clerk receives a request for a hearing from an owner, he/she shall schedule the hearing within 30 days of receipt of the request. The city clerk or other city employee shall notify the owner in writing by certified mail of the date, time and place of the hearing; such notice shall be delivered to the owner at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. At the hearing, the owner shall be given the opportunity to testify and to present evidence. The council shall also receive such other evidence and hear such other testimony as it may find reasonably necessary to make a determination either to sustain, modify or overrule the classification of the dog by the dog control officer. Within ten days of the date of the hearing, the council shall notify the owner in writing by certified mail of its determination on the matter. If the determination is made that the dog is a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog, the notice shall specify the date upon which that determination is effective. Unless the council determines that a later date is appropriate in a particular case, the effective date of the determination shall be the date of the dog control officer's classification.

(c) If the identity of the owner of a dog which the dog control officer has classified as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog cannot be determined, the dog shall be immediately confiscated. If the dog's owner claims such a dog, the dog shall be released to its owner, together with a copy of the notice specified in subsection (a) of this section. If the dog remains unclaimed for five days, the dog shall be destroyed in an expeditious and humane manner. Under no circumstances shall such dog be placed for adoption.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 28, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-29. Requirements for possession of dangerous or potentially dangerous dog.

(a) Any owner of a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog shall be jointly and severally responsible with all other owners of such dog for compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(b) No person shall own, possess, keep, harbor, or have custody or control of a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog except in compliance with all of the following requirements:

- (1) A dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall not be permitted to remain in the city unless it is properly registered as provided in section 18-30.
- (2) Except under the circumstances otherwise specifically permitted by this chapter, a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall at all times be maintained inside a proper enclosure.
- (3) The premises where a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog is kept shall be posted with a clearly visible sign warning that there is a dog on the premises which presents a danger to human beings. Such sign shall include a symbol sufficient to convey without words the message that there is a dog on the premises which presents a danger to human beings.
- (4) The owner of a dangerous dog shall maintain at all times either a policy of insurance or a surety bond in a minimum amount of \$15,000.00 to cover claims for any personal injuries inflicted by the dog, which policy or surety bond shall be issued by an insurer or surety, as the case may be, authorized to transact business in this state.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 29, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-30. Registration of dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs.

(a) No dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall be permitted to remain within the city unless it is registered in accordance with this chapter. The owner of a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall pay an annual registration fee as provided by section 18-16(c) and shall register such owner's dog as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog according to the classification and determination previously made under this chapter. No dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall be registered unless the owner can provide sufficient evidence that all of the provisions of section 18-29 have been and are being met.

(b) The registration provided by this section shall be nontransferable. The registration shall be renewed annually or upon the earlier transfer of ownership or possession of the dog or a change in the location of the dog's primary habitat.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 30, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-31. Transfer of ownership or possession.

Upon the transfer of ownership or possession of any dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog, the transferor shall provide the dog control officer with the name, address, and telephone

numbers of the new owner of the dog and of the effective date of the transfer. Any transferee of a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall be presumed to have notice of the dog's classification as such.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 31, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-32. Notice to dog control officer.

The owner of a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog shall notify the dog control officer in person or by telephone within 24 hours of the occurrence of any one of the following events:

- (1) The dog has escaped or has otherwise ceased to be in the custody of the owner for any reason, unless the owner knows such dog to be physically secured and restrained or confined in the custody of another competent adult;
- (2) Such dog has attacked or bitten a human being;
- (3) Such dog has been sold, given, or otherwise transferred to the ownership or possession of another person;
- (4) The dog has died;
- (5) The owner and the dog have moved outside of the corporate city limits.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 32, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-33. Restraints when outside proper enclosure.

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner of a dangerous dog to permit the dog to be outside of a proper enclosure unless the dog is properly muzzled and restrained by a substantial chain or leash and is under the physical restraint of a responsible person at all times. The muzzle shall be made in a manner that will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration but will prevent it from biting any person.

(b) It shall be unlawful for the owner of a potentially dangerous dog to permit the dog to be outside of a proper enclosure unless the dog is restrained by a substantial chain or leash and is under the restraint of a responsible person at all times.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 33, 4-23-2007)

Sec. 18-34. Confiscation and disposition of dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs.

(a) A dangerous dog shall be immediately confiscated by the dog control officer or by officers of the city police department upon the determination that one of the following circumstances exists:

- (1) The owner of the dog does not have the proper liability insurance or bond as required by section 18-29(b)(4).
- (2) The dog is not validly and currently registered as required by section 18-30.
- (3) The dog is not maintained in a proper enclosure.

(4) The dog is outside a proper enclosure but not under the restraints required by section 18-33, whether or not such dog is then in the custody or possession of its owner.

(b) A potentially dangerous dog shall be confiscated by the dog control officer or by officers of the city police department upon the determination that one of the following circumstances exists:

(1) The dog is not validly registered as required by section 18-30.

(2) The dog is not being maintained in a proper enclosure.

(3) The dog is outside its proper enclosure but is not under the restraint required by section 18-33, whether or not the dog is then in the custody or possession of its owner.

(c) Any dog which has been confiscated under either subsection (a) or (b) of this section shall be returned to its owner upon the owner's compliance with the provisions of this chapter and upon the payment of actual boarding expenses and veterinary costs plus a reasonable confiscation/impoundment fee, which shall be \$50.00 upon the first confiscation of any dog, \$100.00 upon the second, and \$200.00 upon the third or subsequent confiscation. If the owner has not complied with the provisions of this chapter and paid said fees, costs, and expenses within 20 days of the date of confiscation, the dog shall be destroyed in an expeditious and humane manner. Under no circumstances shall such dog be placed for adoption.

(Ord. No. 2007-03-02, § 34, 4-23-2007)

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

SCREVEN COUNTY

Fowl means a bird of any kind.

Guard dog means any dog which has been trained to attack persons and/or animals independently or upon command, and any dog which, while not so trained, has a known propensity to attack persons or animals and is used for the purpose of providing security to any person or premises.

Health department means the county health department.

Livestock means all animals of the equine, bovine, or swine class, including goats, sheep, mules, and other grazing animals.

Nuisance animal means any animal which:

- (1) Molests passersby or passing vehicles;
- (2) Attacks other animals;
- (3) Trespasses on school grounds, recreational areas or parks;
- (4) Is repeatedly at large;
- (5) Damages private or public property;
- (6) Barks, whines or howls in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion; or
- (7) Constitutes a nuisance as the term is defined by the law of the state.

Owner means any person having a right of property in any animal; who keeps or harbors any animal or has its care; who permits any animal to remain on or about the premises owned, possessed or occupied by him; who voluntarily abandons an animal; or who runs an animal away after possessing or owning it.

Rabies certificate means a certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian bearing a license number, ownership, name, address, breed, color and sex of animal, which shall be issued for each animal vaccinated. The date of the last vaccination of such animal shall be clearly stated on such certificate, and a copy of such certificate shall be sent by such veterinarian to the health department.

Running at large means the conduct of any animal, other than a hunting dog while hunting, not confined by its owner or keeper within walls or a fence of proper design, controlled by a leash, or kept in some manner as to keep it from coming in contact with members of the public.

Vaccinate and inoculate mean the injection of a specified dose of antirabies vaccine by a veterinarian into the proper site of an animal, such vaccine having the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Control Section license number and approval stamped on the label of the container and having been approved by the state department of human resources.

Vaccine means an injectable material containing killed or live attenuated rabies virus, licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Control Section, and approved by the state department of human resources. The vaccine used for the purpose of this chapter shall be stored at the temperature prescribed on the package label. An outdated vaccine shall not be used.

Veterinarian means any person who holds a valid license to practice the profession of veterinary medicine in any state of the United States or any province of Canada.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

Vicious animal means an animal which has, without provocation, attacked and bitten a person or other animal.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Cross reference— Definitions generally, § 1-2

Sec. 11-2. - Enforcement of chapter.

The civil and criminal provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by those persons or agencies designated by the county. The animal control officer shall have the power to conduct such investigations as may be deemed reasonably necessary to carry out the duties as referred to in this chapter, and for this purpose to enter at any reasonable time upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of investigating suspected violations of this chapter.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-3. - Animal control officer.

(a) The animal control officer will be an employee of the board of commissioners and/or other employee of the county duly designated as an animal control officer to enforce the rules and regulations of this chapter.

(b) The following duties of the animal control officer will include:

- (1) Investigating and maintaining a record of animal bites in the county.
- (2) Providing for proper confinement of an animal involved in a bite; or if the animal is dead or killed, immediate notification of the health department.
- (3) Enforcing proper disposition of animals exposed to known rabid animals.
- (4) Providing stray animal pickup and impoundment.
- (5) Other related duties as stated in this chapter or as ordered by the board of commissioners.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Cross reference— Ordinance enforcement officers, § 2-111 et. seq.

Sec. 11-4. - Interference with the animal control officer.

It shall be unlawful to resist, interfere with, hinder or molest the animal control officer or any person charged with the enforcement of any provision of this chapter, in the performance of any duties imposed by this chapter, nor shall any person seek to release or remove any animal captured in the animal control department's humane traps or impounded pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. Damaging or removing of the department's traps is strictly prohibited.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-5. - Violations of chapter.

Whenever it has been determined that any provision of this chapter has been violated, prior to filing a warrant or accusation pertaining to such violation, the appropriate authority may serve the owner of the

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

premises on which the violation has occurred with a copy of this chapter, provide such owner with written notice of the violation, and allow such owner a reasonable time as determined by the appropriate authority or his representative, but not exceeding 30 days, in order to permit such owner to avoid prosecution by correcting the condition constituting the violation. For purposes of this chapter, the appropriate official includes an official of the county health department, the animal control officer or a member of the sheriff's department.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-6. - Penalty.

(a) Whenever by this chapter any act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful, or the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful, where no specific penalty is provided therefor, the violation of such provision of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be punishable by fine or imprisonment as provided by section 1-19. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the county from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation of this chapter.

(b) Any person, owner or custodian of an animal who is convicted of a third offense under the provisions of this chapter shall be prohibited from owning, keeping or harboring any animal in the county as long as residency in the county is maintained. Should that person leave the county, upon his return the same restriction shall apply.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-7. - Animals constituting a nuisance—Determination.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of an animal or fowl to permit, whether willfully or through failure to exercise due care or control, such animal or fowl to commit a public nuisance by barking, whining, howling, or making other objectionable noises; by chasing or running after vehicles or persons; by destroying or damaging property of another; by causing annoyance to a neighboring residence and interfering with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the property; or by doing any other thing which is so offensive as to create a nuisance.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-8. - Same—Abatement.

Upon a finding by a court of competent jurisdiction that any animal constitutes a public nuisance within the definition of this chapter, the court may order the owner or custodian to abate the nuisance by permanently removing the animal from the county, or by whatever other means the court deems reasonably likely to abate the nuisance. If the owner or custodian fails to abide by such order, the court, after hearing, may order that the animal be destroyed by the owner under humane conditions, at a veterinarian's office or by surrender to the humane society for disposal.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-9. - Same—Impoundment authorized.

Should any owner or custodian of an animal or fowl fail upon proper notice of not less than seven days to abate a nuisance created by such animal or fowl, or fail to take the necessary steps to provide adequate confinement or properly care for the animal, the animal control officer shall be empowered to

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

impound such animal or fowl under the terms and provisions of article IV of this chapter.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-10. - Vicious animals and guard dogs.

(a) *Muzzling or caging.* No owner or custodian of an animal, having been notified of such animal's viciousness by the animal control officer and/or health department, or having knowledge of such viciousness, shall permit such animal to leave his property unless such animal is restrained by a leash as well as being properly muzzled so as to prevent it from biting any person or other animal.

(b) *Reports.* All reports of vicious animals shall be made to the county board of health and/or the animal control department.

(c) *Posting of notice.* It shall be the duty of each owner, tenant or custodian of property upon which or within which a vicious dog is located to conspicuously and permanently post a notice on the outside of the property stating: "Warning Bad Dog." The letters shall be one inch or larger. In the case of a building, notice shall be conspicuously posted on or about each and every entrance and exit. In the case of a general enclosure in which a guard dog is located, the notices shall be conspicuously posted at every entrance and exit throughout the enclosure.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

State law reference— Dangerous dog control law, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-20 et seq.

Sec. 11-11. - Keeping of dogs and cats.

No person shall raise or keep, or permit to be raised or kept, on premises that he owns or controls any dog or cat, unless:

(1) Each part of the premises of which such an animal has access is at least 50 feet from the nearest occupied dwelling house or business establishment of another person; and at least ten feet from any boundary or property line.

(2) Cages or other shelters for such animals are kept clean.

(3) Pens and other enclosures are well drained.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-12. - Keeping horses, livestock and other animals.

(a) Keeping of horses, mules, asses, cows, sheep, goats, hogs, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, pigeons, or similar fowl or animals shall be prohibited except under the following conditions:

(1) Any housing or enclosure used by such animals or fowl shall be well drained, free from accumulations of animal excrement and objectionable odors, and otherwise clean and sanitary. Animal excrement shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the health officer.

(2) Horse stables (not enclosures or fences) shall be a minimum of 200 feet from any occupied building except the dwelling unit of the owner, unless the owner of the adjacent building and the health officer give permission for a lesser distance.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

or having rabies at the time of death shall be submitted to the state laboratory for examination.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2) Secs. 11-57—11-90. - Reserved.

ARTICLE III. - CRUELTY PROVISIONS ^[13]

⁽¹³⁾ State Law reference— Cruelty to animals, O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4.

- Sec. 11-91. - Abandonment.
- Sec. 11-92. - Cruelty generally.
- Sec. 11-93. - Exceptions.
- Sec. 11-94. - Defense against vicious animals.
- Sec. 11-95. - Poison.
- Sec. 11-96. - Shelter.
- Sec. 11-97. - Diseased, crippled animals.
- Sec. 11-98. - Protective custody.
- Secs. 11-99—11-130. - Reserved.

Sec. 11-91. - Abandonment.

- (a) No person, owner or custodian of an animal shall release such animal on any property, public or private, with the intention of abandoning that animal.
- (b) No person, owner or custodian of an animal shall abandon a dead animal on any private property of another, unless he shall have first obtained permission from the owner of the property on which the animal is to be left.
- (c) No person, owner or custodian of an animal shall abandon a dead animal on any public property or public right-of-way unless the place is an approved sanitary landfill or other facility designed for receiving such item and has been designated by the board of commissioners as a public facility for receiving trash or other refuse.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-92. - Cruelty generally.

No person shall, by his act, omission, or neglect, cause unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death to any living animal, nor shall any person beat, cruelly ill-treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal or cause, instigate, or permit any dogfight, cockfight, bullfight, or other combat between animals or between animals and humans. This section shall not apply to the killing of animals raised for the purpose of providing food, nor does it apply to any person who hunts wild animals in compliance with the game and fish laws of the state.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-93. - Exceptions.

(a) No person shall harm, maim, or kill any animal or attempt to do so, except that a person may:

- (1) Defend his person or property, or the person or property of another; from injury or damage being caused by an animal; or
- (2) Kill any animal causing injury or damage to livestock or poultry.

(b) The killing of animals under the circumstances of subsection (a) of this section shall be done as quickly and humanely as possible.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-94. - Defense against vicious animals.

No person shall willfully or maliciously kill; maim; disfigure; torture; beat with a stick, chain, club or other object; mutilate, burn, or scald with any substance; drive over with any vehicle or otherwise cruelly set upon any animal except that reasonable force may be employed to drive off vicious animals.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-95. - Poison.

No person shall expose any known poisonous substance, whether mixed with food or not, so that such substance may be liable to be eaten by any animal. This section does not apply to persons exposing to his own property common rodent poison mixed only with a vegetable substance.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-96. - Shelter.

No owner, custodian, or caretaker shall refuse to provide any animal in his charge or custody with proper food, drink, shade, shelter, space and care, or to carry any animal in or upon any vehicle in a cruel or inhumane manner. Any animal habitually kept outside shall be provided with a structurally sound, weatherproof enclosure, large enough to accommodate the animal, except this provision shall not pertain to livestock, cows, hogs, horses, mules, donkeys, goats, bison, buffalos, emus, ostriches, and other typical livestock which is raised for agricultural purposes and not intended as pets.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-97. - Diseased, crippled animals.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to have, keep or harbor any animal which is infected with any dangerous disease or any incurable, painfully crippling condition. The animal control officer may impound such diseased or painfully crippled animal, and all such animals impounded may be destroyed humanely as soon thereafter as possible. Upon the destruction of such animal, the animal control officer shall not be required to give any notice. This subsection shall not be construed to include veterinary hospitals or animals under veterinary care.

(b) No owner or custodian of any animal shall fail to provide proper veterinary care to any animal

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

when needed to prevent suffering.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-98. - Protective custody.

Whenever the animal control officer finds that any animal is or will be without proper care because of injury, illness, incarceration or other voluntary absence of the owner or person responsible for the care of such animal, the animal control officer may impound such animal for protective care and in the event of injury, or illness, the animal control officer may take such action as called for to prevent undue pain and suffering, including immediate euthanasia of the animal.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2) Secs. 11-99—11-130. - Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

Sec. 11-131. - Authorized generally.

Sec. 11-132. - Confinement of animals at large.

Sec. 11-133. - Pursuit of animals.

Sec. 11-134. - Notice to owner if known.

Sec. 11-135. - Tranquillization.

Sec. 11-136. - Biting animals.

Sec. 11-137. - Confinement area.

Sec. 11-138. - Report of bites.

Sec. 11-139. - Period of impoundment for dogs and cats.

Sec. 11-140. - Fees and charges.

Sec. 11-141. - Deadline for payment of license taxes and fees after impoundment; adoption or euthanasia.

Sec. 11-142. - Redemption.

Sec. 11-143. - Euthanasia.

Sec. 11-131. - Authorized generally.

Any animal, confined or otherwise, which is found in violation of this chapter shall be confiscated and impounded by the animal control officer.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-132. - Confinement of animals at large.

Unrestrained dogs which are creating a nuisance, nuisance animals and animals found running at large shall be taken by the animal control officer and impounded in the shelter and confined in a humane manner.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

Sec. 11-133. - Pursuit of animals.

The animal control officer may pursue the animal onto private property, including the owner's or custodian's, but not into a human dwelling, to evoke capture of an animal subject to impoundment under this article.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-134. - Notice to owner if known.

If an animal impounded under the provisions of this article bears vaccination/identification tags, a reasonable effort to locate its owner shall be made.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-135. - Tranquilization.

Any animal that is found away from the premises of the owner, not under the control of the owner and which is determined by the animal control officer to be a nuisance, will be classified as being unconfined; therefore, it may be shot with a tranquilizer gun by the animal control officer in an attempt to capture the animal. The animal control officer operating the tranquilizer gun and/or the county health department or the board of commissioners shall not be held liable for any injury or death to an animal which might occur from the use of the tranquilizer gun or equipment.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-136. - Biting animals.

(a) An animal, whether vaccinated against rabies or not, having bitten a human or other pet animal, shall be quarantined for a period of ten days, at the owner's property or in a place and manner approved by the animal control officer.

(b) Any animal under quarantine as stated in subsection (a) of this section that is not confined by the owner or is running at large shall be immediately impounded by the animal control officer and boarded at the humane society animal shelter until the ten-day period is over.

(c) At the time quarantine is ordered by the animal control officer, the animal owner or custodian shall sign a home quarantine agreement or submit the animal to the humane society for the ten-day period and pay any fees required. All expenses incurred for boarding the animal for this period of time shall be paid by the owner or custodian of the biting animal, unless such bite was provoked, in which event the person provoking the bite shall be responsible for all expenses incurred.

(d) An unvaccinated animal bitten by a known rabid animal shall immediately be destroyed under supervision of the animal control officer. Exceptions to this section are as noted by the state department of human resources.

(e) Any animal, the rabies vaccination of which is current as evidenced by the certificate of vaccination, which is bitten by a known rabid animal, must be revaccinated, confined in a manner approved by the environmental health rabies control officer, an employee of the health department, for a period of 45 days and then released only if no signs of rabies are evident.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

Sec. 11-137. - Confinement area.

The area or facility used to confine any animal in compliance with the provisions of this article shall be subject to the approval of the animal control officer. The confinement area or facility may include an animal shelter, kennel, animal hospital, or other place in the county which provides:

- (1) Construction and management which will keep the animal dry and clean and will prevent its escape or exposure to the public.
- (2) Assurance that the animal will have safe and adequate water and food.
- (3) Adequate and clean space for the animal to exercise.
- (4) Protection against excessive heat, cold, and other inclement weather.
- (5) Space, cages, pens, and other necessary equipment to isolate the animal for its protection against injury and infectious disease.
- (6) A method and procedure for the identification of the animal and the date of its admission to the area.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-138. - Report of bites.

- (a) Any person bitten by an animal shall be required to immediately notify the animal control officer and/or the health department.
- (b) The owner or custodian of any animal having signs suggestive of rabies shall confine the animal and immediately notify the animal control officer and the rabies control officer of the state department of health, reporting any information regarding any person bitten or attacked by such animal.
- (c) The health department or the animal control officer shall report all known cases of rabies in the county to the state department of human resources.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-139. - Period of impoundment for dogs and cats.

Impounded dogs and cats shall be kept for not less than three working days depending upon the physical condition of the animal. Abandoned or severely ill/injured animals may be destroyed immediately at the discretion of the humane society and animal control officer.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-140. - Fees and charges.

Any owner of or person adopting an impounded animal shall pay such fees and charges as set forth by the humane society or animal shelter.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-141. - Deadline for payment of license taxes and fees after impoundment; adoption or

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
Chapters 11 - ANIMAL CONTROL
ARTICLE IV. - IMPOUNDMENT

euthanasia.

Any dog or cat impounded under this article of which its owner, possessor, or representative shall not come forward within five working days after the impoundment and pay the fees specified in this article shall be put up for adoption or euthanasia in some humane way.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-142. - Redemption.

(a) Any person reclaiming an animal impounded under this article must supply appropriate proof of proper rabies vaccination or pay a vaccination fee as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges on file at the animal shelter.

(b) Any animal not reclaimed by an owner or custodian within five working days becomes the property of the animal shelter and may be placed for adoption or humanely euthanized at the discretion of the animal shelter.

(c) In addition to, or in lieu of impounding an animal found to be in violation of this chapter, the animal control officer may issue to the known owner of such animal a notice of ordinance violation. Such notice shall impose a penalty as provided in section 1-19 that may be paid in full in 72 hours. Failure to satisfy the penalty shall result in a magistrate citation.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)

Sec. 11-143. - Euthanasia.

When any animal, which its owner is unknown or incapable of being located, is impounded subject to the provisions of this article, and such animal is injured or otherwise in a state of suffering, it shall thereupon be the duty of the animal control officer to obtain the opinion of the humane society as to the extent of such suffering or injury to such animal. When such opinion is that euthanasia should be performed, it shall then become the duty of the animal control officer to authorize such euthanasia. If the owner is located, it shall be done at the owner's expense.

(Ord. of 2-22-2005(1), §§ 1, 2)



SAVING HOMELESS PETS ACROSS AMERICA Transport Requirements (Updated 6/10/15)

Northeast Animal Shelter is committed to saving thousands of animals each year through our Saving Homeless Pets Across America program. We work with animal lovers across the country to rescue healthy, adoptable puppies, dogs, and kittens from states where they would meet certain death.

As more rescue groups and shelters reach out to us, this program continues to grow. We now work in places as far away as California, Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

To ensure the health and safety of all animals taken into our Shelter, we have developed guidelines for rescue groups to follow. Please read this information carefully.

If you would like to learn more about our program, please contact us:
Betty Bilton, Director – betty.b@neas.org – (978-745-9888 x 302);
Jane Taubeneck, Transport Coordinator – jane.t@neas.org (978-745-9888 x 304).

Note: Changes/clarifications from our prior protocol are highlighted in yellow.

General Requirements

All canines must be readily adoptable and

- have no significant behavior issue (see details below);
- be in good health (see details below);
- have an alert appearance and good appetite;
- have received pre-transport tests and medications (see details under Medical Requirements)
- be bathed and treated for fleas and ticks.

These behavior issues make a canine unadoptable:

- a history of biting;
- known aggression towards people or other animals;
- known possession/resource aggression with food or toys (must pass food bowl behavior evaluation test);
- separation anxiety;
- a severely shy, timid, or quirky personality;
- failed the Behavior Assessment Test (see next page);

We cannot accept any canine who is not in good health, including the following issues:*

- appears ill (temperature, vomiting, liquid diarrhea, blood in stool, hacking cough, watery eyes, nasal discharge, trouble breathing through nose, wheezing, lethargy, tremors, lack of appetite, vomiting, or severely underweight with ribs showing);
- has unhealthy skin (Sarcoptic Mange; Demodectic Mange; bumps; red or white patches; missing fur)
- has unexplained skin lesions, wounds, bites, abscesses, scratches, or fresh scars of unknown origin (known source of wounds, etc. must be documented);
- has ever had ringworm;
- has fractured or broken bones* or any lameness (limping or favoring of leg)*;
- has significant dental problems that require treatment*;
- has obvious or known health issue (e.g., missing limb, blind, deaf, diabetic, heart disease, kidney disease, seizures, mammary tumors)*;
- tests positive for Giardia;
- tests positive for hooks, whips, rounds, tapes, or Coccidia unless appropriately treated after receiving test results;
- tests positive for Heartworm; Lyme; Erlichiosis; or Anaplasmosis; (NEAS will accept pets 30 days after completion of treatment, provided blood work is approved by NEAS' vet.);
- exhibits excessive scratching or has severe hair loss;
- requires medication or medical treatment during transport;

Note: If one puppy out of a litter has Giardia, Heartworm, Lyme, Erlichiosis, Anaplasmosis, or gets sick, please do not send any puppies from that litter for a minimum of 2 weeks after last exposure. The littermates have all been exposed to whatever the sick puppy has and the stress from transport will more than likely cause the other puppies to get sick. Also, discuss details with Transport Coordinator.

**NEAS may make exceptions on a case-by-case basis.*

We cannot accept any canine who is too young, too small, is pregnant, or a female in heat, so do not send a canine who:

- is under 9 weeks of age;
- is under 7 pounds without a specific exception which may be given for small breeds;
- is pregnant;
- has a swollen vulva or bleeding;

We cannot accept any canine who is a difficult to place breed, such as:

- Pit Bull, Pit mix, German Shepherd, Rottweiler, Doberman Pinscher, Bullmastiff, Cane Corso, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Alaskan Malamute, Akita, Shar-Peis, or Chow Chow. Other breeds known to be problematic with people or other pets may be accepted if properly evaluated (e.g., Boxer and St. Bernard). Exceptions may be made for mixes with friendly personalities.

Behavior Assessment Test

Because NEAS is a no-kill shelter, dogs transported to NEAS must be adoptable. Dogs that are not adoptable due to behavior problems will become more problematic every day they are at our Shelter, take up kennel space, and deny other more adoptable dogs the opportunity to get adopted. We know it is difficult to make life or death decisions, but saving the largest number of adoptable pets is always the goal. We expect the sending shelter to evaluate the dogs in their care and to only send NEAS dogs that they believe are easily adoptable.

NEAS requires that the following behavior assessment be followed when choosing dogs for transport:

The food bowl behavior evaluation test for canines over 8 weeks

Using the “Assessa Hand” (NEAS will provide if necessary), the dog/puppy should be given canned food, allowed to eat for a bit, then using the hand gently pet the dog on the head and neck area. If the dog growls, snaps or attempts to bite when being pet with the hand, the dog is not appropriate for transport. If no warning signs are given the hand should be placed into the food bowl, making a motion to pull the bowl away from the dog. If the dog growls, snaps or attempts to bite the hand, the dog again is not appropriate for transport.

Additional requirements for canines older than 16 weeks

The puppy/dog must:

- be confident (not fearful), friendly and outgoing with people;
- not show reactivity, lunging, and growling in the presence of another dog or person;
- allow a person to pick up each foot, look in the dog’s mouth, and touch its belly without aggression or distress.
- be able to walk along with a person on leash outside of their run without extreme coaxing;
- be able to approach an unfamiliar person outside of run;
- accept being leashed inside their run without cowering, and without the handler chasing or having to “catch” the dog to do so.

Puppy Socialization and Development

Puppies need enrichment to prepare them for the transition. The following exercises will help give young pups confidence and coping skills when out of their run and away from their littermates:

- Each day each pup needs to get out of their run for 30 minutes.
- While the pup is out of the run the following should occur:
 - Let the puppy be out of sight of the other puppies;
 - Handle the pup all over its body;
 - Have a leash on the pup;
 - Encourage the pup to walk on and off leash;
 - Feed the pup treats or part of their daily allotment of food;
 - Allow the pup to play with toys;
 - Put the pup on different surfaces, tile, carpeting, gravel, dirt, and encourage it to walk.

Cleaning and Sanitization

When one of our animals becomes ill with a deadly disease like parvo, we must halt all adoptions and shut down our Shelter. Obviously, NEAS never wants to receive pets with parvo, and we require that sending shelters have proper cleaning, sanitizing, and isolation protocols in place.

Bleach is generally considered the most effective all-purpose sanitizer (although it won't kill Coccidia). For parvo control, dilute 1/2 cup per gallon of water and leave on for 20 minutes before thoroughly rinsing.

Wysiwash is a calcium hypochlorite system. This neutral PH chlorine-based sanitizer is less irritating than bleach and is just as effective. We recommend you try this product.

Quat formulations (quaternary ammonium compounds and biguanides) are commonly used in shelters to clean and sanitize, but Quat has not been proven to kill parvo. Whenever parvo is suspected or present, another sanitizing method should be added to your sanitizing protocol. At NEAS, we rotate with Accel and Quat.

Trifectant and Verkon-S are made from the same chemical (potassium monopersulfate) and comes as a powder which must be mixed with water. The solution will kill parvo (with a 10 minute minimum contact time). It is non-irritating when used as directed and can be used when people and pets are present. If not washed off, it will leave a white residue which can become an issue for pets who come in contact with it.

Accel Disinfectant is a one-step disinfectant, cleaner and deodorizer containing accelerated hydrogen peroxide. It disinfects in 5 minutes, it has a pleasant odor, and it leaves no residue. **As of May 2015, NEAS switched to Accel. Our kennel staff likes it better than Trifectant, although it costs about 14% more than Trifectant.**

Note that when using any of the above sanitizers, fecal matter must first be removed.

Medical Requirements Prior to Transport

To ensure the animals' health during transport and their stay at our Shelter, the following medical requirements must be met:

Pre-transport Isolation in Sanitary Housing

Animals housed in a shelter or pound often contract contagious diseases such as canine cough, parvovirus, intestinal parasites and other potentially serious medical conditions. Exposure to illness and long distance travel create stress, which increases the likelihood that animals will become sick. For this reason, dogs should be isolated from the general shelter population prior to shipment, and carefully observed for any health issues.

Isolation should be for a minimum of 7 days for older dogs, and 14 days for puppies. Any dog exposed to parvo must be isolated and held for 14 days after exposure, and include this information on the pet's health check form. Preferably, isolation will occur in a foster home. If foster care is not possible, animals should be housed in sanitary conditions in a separate area of the shelter so as to avoid infection by parasites and contagious diseases from other animals, or from a contaminated shelter environment.

Vaccinations

Type of vaccine	Puppies < 5 months	Dogs 5 months up to 1 yr.	Dogs 1 yr. and older
Canine Influenza NOTE: This requirement will be waived for pets coming from areas where canine influenza is not prevalent.	2 shots 2 weeks apart, with last shot at least 3 days before travel	Preferred: Same as puppies; Acceptable: 1 shot 3 to 16 days before travel (we will accept 1 shot if you can't give 2);	Not required
Rabies - Inoculation must be given by licensed veterinarian	Required if 16 weeks or older	Required (within 1 year of travel)	
Distemper-parvo (DHPP; DHPPC; DA2PPV; DHLPP)	Every 2 weeks between 6 weeks and 16 weeks; min 2 shots*	1 shot 14 to 28 days before travel; or 2 shots 2 to 4 weeks apart, with last shot no more than 1 year before travel.	
Bordetella – intranasal or oral (Do not use shot!)	1 dose at least 1 week before travel and no earlier than 6 weeks of age.	Optional, but if given must be at least 1 week before travel	

Vaccine labels must accompany each pet's health history form and include the vaccine manufacturer, lot #, vaccine expiration date, and date vaccination was given.

** DHPP shots: Puppies under 8 pound must receive their 2nd shot at least 7 days before travel. Puppies 8+ pounds must receive their 2nd shot at least 3 days before travel. After the 2nd shot, you may give additional DHPP shots up until the day before transport, although it is preferable that shots not be given 1 – 2 days before travel.*

Tests

All puppies and dogs must have:

- A fecal test **no more than 1 week before travel**; must test for whips, rounds, hooks, tapes, Coccidia, and Giardia. Ideally this test should be Idexx test # 5010 performed by Idexx Laboratories. If that is not practical, then the test should be done by a licensed veterinarian with centrifugation. **Only one fecal test is required per litter provided fecal samples are obtained from several stools.** Test results must be provided with the pet's documentation. If the fecal test is performed by a veterinarian, she/he must sign the report **on the vet's letterhead.**
- For dogs over 5 months, a negative 4-way SNAP test within 30 days of transport. This tests for Heartworm, Lyme disease, Ehrlichiosis and Anaplasmosis. A 3-way snap test is acceptable in areas where Anaplasmosis is not prevalent.

In some situations, a Giardia SNAP test may be appropriate (see section About Giardia).

Medications (Proactive and Treatment)

All puppies and dogs must have:

- Proactive medications for Coccidia, worms, and Giardia (see details on next page).
- If pet has fleas, ticks and/or ear mites, treat with a miticide (e.g., Advantix, Frontline, Revolution).
- Monthly medication for preventing heartworm, beginning at 4 months of age.

Medications should be given as soon as a pet requires it, and repeat treatments as needed. Try to finish parasite treatments before fecal testing in order to increase the odds of a negative fecal result.

Please call us to discuss any questions or exceptions to these health requirements.

Medications for Parasites

For proactive treatment prior to receiving fecal test results:

Coccidia. 9% Ponazuril one week apart. Treat for 1 or 2 days for each course (different dosages apply; see details on next page) and repeat in 1 week.

Giardia, Hooks, Rounds, and Whips. 7 consecutive days of Panacur or Safeguard granules (fenbendazole) at 230mg/10 lb, followed 2 – 3 weeks later with a 3 - 5 day treatment if pet has not yet been transported. Give additional treatments as necessary. We do not recommend adding Flagyl (metronidazole) if you haven't done a fecal test that confirms Giardia.

Tapes. Our proactive protocol does not include treatment for tapes not verified by a fecal test.

For remedial treatment based on actual fecal results:

Coccidia. 9% Ponazuril one week apart. Treat for 1 or 2 days (different dosages apply; see details on next page) and repeat in 1 week.

Giardia. 7 consecutive days of Panacur or Safeguard (fenbendazole) at 230 mg/10 lb, and add 10 days of Flagyl (metronidazole) if fecal test results show Giardia with a high cyst count or symptoms are severe.

Hooks and/or Rounds and/or Whips, with Giardia. 7 consecutive days of Panacur and add 10 days of Flagyl (metronidazole) if fecal test results show Giardia with a high cyst count or symptoms are severe.

If Giardia is not present, Drontal Plus is our preferred dewormer because it treats all 4 common worms and the dosing is simpler. Various options are shown below:

Hooks and/or Rounds, with no Giardia. Panacur, Strongid T, Nemex, Drontal, Drontal Plus, or Virbanel. Give two treatments, 2 – 3 weeks apart.

Whips, with no Giardia. Panacur or Drontal Plus. Give two treatments, 2 – 3 weeks apart.

Whips and/or Hooks and/or Rounds, with no Giardia. Panacur or Drontal Plus. Give two treatments, 2 – 3 weeks apart.

Tapes, with no Giardia. Drontal, Drontal Plus, Droncit, or Virbanel. Only one treatment is necessary.

Treat per manufacturer's instructions, and note that some medications should not be given to very young puppies. If you use Panacur and you are not treating for Giardia, the standard treatment is a 3 - 5 day course, with a repeat treatment of another 3 – 5 day course in 2 – 3 weeks. For Drontal Plus, the treatment if you are not treating Giardia is just one dose, with a repeat treatment in 2 – 3 weeks.

It is likely that you will begin initial treatments per the proactive protocol, and then choose the best medication for repeat treatments based on actual fecal test results. E.G., start with Panacur and use Drontal Plus for the repeat treatment if pet is negative for Giardia.

About Giardia

NEAS' Policy:

NEAS cannot accept pets who test positive for Giardia prior to transport or who exhibit Giardia symptoms.

What is Giardia:

Giardia is a common parasite found in the intestines of animals and people (although cross-species transmission is rare). Infection occurs by ingesting Giardia cysts shed in feces. This occurs by drinking fecal-contaminated water, contact via clothing, clothes, shoes, cages, water bowls, and shared objects, or reinfection via self-grooming.

Giardia Symptoms:

Observable Giardia symptoms are soft, semi-formed stools (often but not always initially watery) with a pale, oily or fatty appearance and foul odor. Mucus is often visible. Fecal tests for Giardia do not always reveal Giardia, as the parasite sheds in cycles.

Giardia Testing:

Giardia cysts can be detected by a fecal test using Idexx's 5010 test (mailed overnight to Idexx) or a Giardia SNAP test. If the sample size for the Idexx 5010 test is too small or is taken during a non-shedding stage of the cycle, the test may provide a false negative, so multiple tests may be required. The Giardia SNAP test detects Giardia via an antigen response. The Giardia SNAP test is more reliable for detecting Giardia than the Idexx 5010 test, is easier to administer, and the results are immediate. A disadvantage is that it does not rate the severity of the infection or detect worms or other parasites.

Giardia Treatment:

All dogs at NEAS' sources are assumed to be at high risk for Giardia and other parasites. Therefore, regardless of age, symptoms, or test results, all dogs should be treated with Panacur or Safe-guard (fenbendazole) for 7 days. Giardia is difficult to resolve, so the length of treatment is important.

Some pets may need more aggressive treatment when the Giardia symptoms are severe or persistent, especially with puppies. In such cases, add Flagyl (metronidazole) and continue with BOTH medications until medicated for at least 10 days (including at least 5 days on the combination treatment). If symptoms still persist, continue combination treatment for another 10 days. In some difficult cases, treatment for 30 days is required. When symptoms resolve, test with the Giardia SNAP test.

To prevent reinfection, keep the cages clean, promptly remove feces, sanitize the cages, and routinely bathe the dogs to remove cysts.

About Coccidia

Coccidia are parasites that live in the intestinal tracts of dogs and cats. The primary sign of an animal suffering with Coccidiosis is diarrhea. The diarrhea may be mild to severe depending on the level of infection. Blood and mucous may be present, especially in advanced cases. Severely affected animals may also vomit, lose their appetite, become dehydrated, and in some instances, die from the disease.

Because Coccidia is spread by the feces of carrier animals, it is very important to practice strict sanitation. All fecal material should be removed. Housing needs to be such that food and water cannot become contaminated with feces. Dispose of contaminated bedding because ordinary washing will not kill the parasite. Clean water should be provided at all times. Most disinfectants do not work well against Coccidia; steam cleaning, immersion in boiling water, or a 10% ammonia solution are the best methods to kill Coccidia. Coccidia can withstand freezing.

While traditionally Sulfadimethoxine (Albon) is used to treat cats and dogs for Coccidia, we do not recommend it. A 10 day course is required, and it doesn't always work. Sulfadimethoxine takes a long time to rid a pet of Coccidia because it does not kill Coccidia. Sulfadimethoxine works by preventing the protozoa from reproducing. However, in many animal shelters, Coccidia is such a frequent and troublesome problem that proactive treatment (as opposed to treating only symptomatic or diagnosed animals) is preferable to prevent environmental contamination and spread.

Ponazuril has been successfully used off label for treatment of Coccidia. It works by actually killing the protozoa. You can purchase it from many sources as Marquis Paste (15% Ponazuril) but it is much less expensive when you buy from a veterinary compounder. Depending on your state regulations, you may be able to purchase a 9% Ponazuril chicken-flavored solution in economical amounts from Wedgewood Pharmacy in New Jersey (800-331-8272), with a prescription from your vet. Roadrunner Pharmacy in Arizona (877-518-4589) is another compounder.

Our prescription is written as follows:

480 ml Ponazuril 90 mg/ml suspension (chicken flavor);

Give orally .15 ml per pound (30 mg/kg) of dog daily for 1 day, repeat* in one week if needed.

An alternative dosing/treatment plan is:

Give orally .10 ml per pound (20 mg/kg) of dog daily for 2 days, repeat* in one week if needed.

Repeat dosages should be given if Coccidia is present in your shelter, or if pet previously tested positive for Coccidia, or if pet has diarrhea.

The pricing from Wedgewood Pharmacy (as of 12/30/2014) is:

15 ml \$36; 30 ml \$45; 60 ml \$58.80; 120 ml \$84; 240 ml \$120;
480 ml \$158.40 (recommended size)

Each 480 ml bottle will treat 160 10-pound dogs including a repeat treatment, at a cost of about \$1.00 each. Shelf life is 6 months. If purchased as Marquis Paste, you will need to dilute it with water (50/50), and the cost is about \$1.50 to treat a 10-pound dog two times.

** Dosage as suggested by UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program, <http://www.sheltermedicine.com/node/394>. Please consult with your veterinarian before using.*

Manifest

Before each scheduled transport, NEAS must receive a manifest by email or fax that lists each animal to be transported. We also require a Health History Form for each puppy litter or older dog. **You may combine the manifest and health history information on a single Excel spreadsheet.** For transports commencing on Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, the manifest must be received by noon the preceding Friday. For transports commencing on Wednesday - Saturday, the manifest must be received by noon two days prior to the pick-up date.

If we do not receive this information, the transport will need to be cancelled. Send scanned copies via email to NEAS' transport coordinator or fax to 978-666-4377.

Documents that Must Accompany Each Pet or Puppy Litter

- State Approved Health Certificate* for Interstate Transport, signed by a licensed veterinarian no earlier than 10 days before travel;
- Health History**;
- Intake Forms and all other documents about pet's history;
- Rabies Certificate (for pets 16 weeks and older);
- All test reports. If the fecal test is not performed by Idexx Laboratories, it must be signed by a licensed veterinarian;
- 3-way or 4-way snap test report.

**Health Certificates should only be issued for dogs in good health. The veterinarian should perform a general health exam including, but not limited to, checks for chronic muscular-skeletal disorders, central nervous system problems, mammary tumors, obvious fractures, obvious pregnancy, and severe dental disease/gum recession.*

*** The Health History and the pet's Health Certificate should include all medications given prior to transport, and transported with the pet.*

NORTHEAST ANIMAL SHELTER OLDER DOG HEALTH HISTORY FORM

FOR OLDER PUPPIES (5+ MONTHS) ON DATE OF TRAVEL & ADULT DOGS

At least 72 hours prior to transport, please send this form to NEAS via email to pets@neas.org or fax to 978-666-4377. Subsequent info should be recorded and the final form must accompany pet with transport.

Please fill out one form for each dog. Sending Organization _____

Breed _____ Age _____ on _____
Specify months or years Date age was estimated

Date arrived at shelter? _____ [] Private surrender [] Stray Other source _____

Dates in foster care (if applicable)? _____ FC's name _____

Dog's Name	
Collar # and Microchip #	
Exam Date	
Color	
Sex	
Altered (date)	
Temperature	
Heart murmur (Y/N)?	
Resp. Rate	
Weight	
Eyes*	
Ears*	
Nose*	
Mouth*	
Teeth*	
Skin*	
DHPP (type & dates)	
Rabies (date)	
Other vaccines or meds (type & dates)	
4 DX Snap Test (dates & results)	
Fecal Test (dates & results)	

* Put check mark in box if normal, or describe problem or enter code:

Eyes: C = Cherry eye	R = Runny	Y = Cloudy	OP = Other problem
Ears: I = Infection	M = Mites	R = Redness	OP = Other problem
Nose: R = Runny			OP = Other problem
Mouth: BG = Bleeding gums	S = Sores		OP = Other problem
Teeth: Y = Yellow	T = Tarter	B = Broken	ND = Needs dental work
Skin: D = Dry	M = Mange	MF = Missing fur	RW = Ringworm
S = Scaly	R = Raw	U = Bumpy	XC = Discolored

NORTHEAST ANIMAL SHELTER PUPPY HEALTH HISTORY FORM
FOR PUPPIES UNDER 5 MONTHS ON DATE OF TRAVEL

At least 72 hours prior to transport, please send this form to NEAS via email to pets@neas.org or fax to 978-666-4377. Subsequent info should be recorded and the final form must accompany pet with transport.

Please fill out one form for each litter. Sending Organization _____

Breed _____ # of pups in litter _____ Age _____ on _____
Weeks Date age was estimated

Date arrived at shelter _____ [] Private surrender [] Stray Other source _____

Dates in foster care (if applicable) _____ FC's name _____

	Puppy #1	Puppy #2	Puppy #3	Puppy #4	Puppy #5	Puppy #6	Puppy #7
Puppy's Name							
Collar # and Microchip #							
Exam Date							
Color							
Sex							
Altered (date)							
Temperature							
Heart murmur? (Y/N)							
Resp. Rate							
Weight							
Eyes*							
Ears*							
Nose*							
Mouth*							
Teeth*							
Skin*							
DHPP (type & dates)							
Rabies (date)							
Bordetella (date)							
Other vaccines or meds (type, dates)							
4 DX Snap Test (date & results)							
Fecal Test (date) & results							

* Put check mark in box if normal, or describe problem. Use codes from Older Dog form.

Proposal for this committee's final report

Reading Stephen Aronson's book and reading many articles at <http://animalsheltering.org> leads me to propose that we make specific recommendations on each of these topics:

1. Organizational Structure (which department head should Animal Control report to?)
2. Capacity (expected volume of animals)
3. Staffing (job roles that must be filled by permanent staff, volunteers, inmates, etc.)
4. Management and Oversight (shelter Director's responsibilities, oversight by a Board)
5. Shelter Design (lessons from nearby counties; known best practices)
6. Budget and Revenue Sources (lessons from past experience)
7. Relationship to Local Rescue Organizations (division of responsibilities, potential for subcontracting)
8. Ordinances (updates needed, lessons from similar counties)
9. Public Relations

The report should give a series of recommendations, with approximately one page per topic, as illustrated below. After each recommendation, supporting details are provided, taken from this committee's work.

<p>Introduction Why the committee was formed, who the members are, etc.</p> <p>Recommendation 1 Short recommendation, written for impatient readers.</p> <p>Supporting Details Longer explanation goes here, with alternatives considered, detailed reasons for the recommendation.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Recommendation 2 Short recommendation, written for impatient readers.</p> <p>Supporting Details Longer explanation goes here, with alternatives considered, detailed reasons for the recommendation, etc.</p>

The idea behind this structure is to create a fast-path for a hurried reader to understand the recommendations. We know that many readers will not read every word of a long report, and yet they will not blindly accept our recommendations without evidence that we arrived at these thoughtfully.

If committee members are interested in this approach, I would like to write a first draft of the structure and circulate it by email. At future meetings we can flesh out details and arrive at the recommendations.