

WHO SHOULD I CALL?

Cruelty, Abandonment, Neglect, and Abuse:

- Capital Area Humane Society (614) 777-7387, ext. 250

Dogs Running Loose, Sick or Injured Strays:

- Franklin County Dept. of Animal Care and Control 462-3400

Barking Dogs:

- In Columbus: City Prosecutor 645-7483
- In other areas: Call local police department

After Hours Emergency Vet Care:

- OSU Vet Emergency Services 292-3551
- Capital Vet Referral & Emergency 870-0480
- Columbus Emergency Vet Clinic 846-5800

Reporting Dog Bites:

- In Columbus and Worthington:
Columbus Health Dept. 645-6134
- All other areas of Franklin County:
Franklin County Board of Health 462-3160
- If the dog is still running loose or if the bite occurred off the owner's property:
Franklin County Dept. of Animal Care and Control 462-3400

Dead Animal Removal:

- Columbus: Division of Refuse 645-5966
- Other areas: your municipal/trustee office

Cats Running Loose:

- There are no state laws which prohibit cats from running loose in Franklin County

Other Animal-Related Problems:

- Call your local municipal or township office, or a nuisance wildlife company

SHELTER HOURS

Monday–Friday 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Saturday–Sunday 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

MANAGING FERAL CAT COLONIES:

Fact: In Franklin County alone there are more than 250,000 feral cats.

Fact: A pair of breeding cats can produce two or more litters per year, which can ultimately result in 400,000 cats over a seven-year period!

The Basics of the **Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) Program:**

TNR is a full-management plan in which strays and feral cats already living outdoors in cities and rural areas are humanely trapped, then evaluated, given a 3-year rabies vaccination, tested for feline leukemia, and sterilized (neutered or spayed) by veterinarians to prevent population growth. Kittens and tame cats are adopted into good homes. Healthy adult cats too wild to be adopted receive an ear notch to show that they have been vaccinated and are returned to their familiar habitat under the lifelong care of volunteers.

For more information, please contact the Capital Area Humane Society's Feral Cat Colony Program at (614) 777-7387, ext. 296.

For general information on feral cats and TNR programs please refer to:

<http://www.alleycat.org>

<http://www.feralcat.com>



ANIMAL CRUELTY

LAW ENFORCEMENT

3015 Scioto-Darby Executive Court

Hilliard, OH 43026

(614) 777-7387, ext/ 250

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

State of Ohio Definition of Cruelty to Animals:

O.R.C. 959.131 Prohibitions Concerning Companion Animals

(1) "Companion animal" means any animal that is kept inside a residential dwelling and any dog or cat regardless of where it is kept.

(B) No person shall knowingly torture, torment, needlessly mutilate or maim, cruelly beat, poison, needlessly kill, or commit an act of cruelty against a companion animal.

(C) No person who confines or who is the custodian or caretaker of a companion animal shall negligently do any of the following:

- (1) Torture, torment, needlessly mutilate or maim, cruelly beat, poison, needlessly kill, or commit an act of cruelty against the companion animal;
- (2) Deprive the companion animal of necessary sustenance, confine the companion animal without supplying it during the confinement with sufficient quantities of good, wholesome food and water, or impound or confine the companion animal without affording it, during the impoundment or confinement, with access to shelter from heat, cold, wind, rain, snow, or excessive direct sunlight, if it can reasonably be expected that the companion animal would become sick or suffer in any other way as a result of or due to the deprivation, confinement, or impoundment or confinement in any of those specified manners.

1717.01 (B) Definition

"Cruelty," "torment," and "torture" include every act, omission, or neglect by which unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or suffering is caused, permitted, or allowed to continue, when there is a reasonable remedy or relief.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE ANIMAL CRUELTY

- Extremely thin, starving animals.
- Wounds on the body.
- Patches of missing hair.
- Limping.
- Dogs who are repeatedly left alone without food and water, often chained or locked up in a yard.
- Dogs who are kept outside without shelter/shade in extreme weather conditions.
- Animals who have been abandoned by their owner. Please note that stray animals are not in this category.
- An owner striking, or otherwise physically abusing an animal, or animals who cower in fear or act aggressively when approached by their owners.
- Tick or flea infestations. Such a condition, if left untreated by a veterinarian, can lead to an animal's death.
- Dogs who have been hit by cars—or are showing any of the signs above—and have not been taken to the veterinarian.
- Embedded collars or chains around the neck.
- Dogs whose hair is severely matted.
- Poor environment – dogs in mud or fecal matter.

HOW TO REPORT ANIMAL ABUSE

If you suspect animal abuse, please call (614) 777-7387, ext. 250 to file a report. Please be prepared to give the following information:

- Your name, address, and phone number in case we need to contact you for more information – this information is kept confidential. (You may file an anonymous report, however, if the rest of the information is unclear or incomplete, please be aware that we may be unable to respond.)
- The address/location of the problem – if possible with the name of the nearest intersection or main road and ZIP code.
- The nature of the problem – is food, water or shelter being denied? Is the animal being beaten? Has the owner moved and left the animal behind?
- What kind of animal is it? Where is it being kept? A clear description will make it easier for the humane agent to identify and locate the animal in question.
- All information you have regarding the party responsible.
- If possible, photographs and video evidence is extremely helpful. However, please do not place yourself in a dangerous or compromised position. If warranted, the humane agents will handle this themselves.