

About Us

Town of Yucca Valley Animal Control Services

Organizational Program Description

Animal Control Program Purpose :

The Animal Control Section is responsible for the enforcement of State laws and local ordinances pertaining to animals and serves as a contact point for the public in regards to animal problems and issues.

The Animal Control Section strives to assure the protection, health and safety of animals and people (in animal related issues) through education and, if necessary, enforcement of regulations. This Section also works in conjunction with various agencies, such as State Fish & Game and the Sheriff's Department, on animal related issues.

The Animal Control Section provides and maintains a state mandated rabies control program through dog licensing. Through this program, rabies control is imposed. Gaining compliance in the field for canine licensing is accomplished through education and, if necessary, enforcement by issuing Notices of Violation and court citations. State law also mandates the responsibility of each city and/or Town has for providing rabies vaccination clinics.

The Animal Control Section provides a highly visible animal control presence in the community through patrol. Active patrolling allows staff to put forth effort in addressing some of the concerns in the Town, such as loose dogs. The Section also provides emergency service seven (7) days a week, twenty-four (24) hours per day, for addressing exigent circumstance as they arise.

Animal Control Section Functions:

The Animal Control Section functions are listed as follows:

- This Section coordinates with the Development Assistant/Planning in the investigation of illegal kennels, catteries, and various animal related density issues that are outlined in the Development Code.
- The Section is responsible for the inspections of commercial animal establishments, such as pet shops and dog grooming parlors.

The Section responds to citizen's requests regarding animal related emergencies, nuisances, questions and problems in a timely manner.

- The Animal Control Section responds to most snake calls. Animal Control Officers are trained in rattlesnake capture and are able to remove rattlesnakes from inside of homes, cars or at public places.

- The Animal Control Section patrols the Town in order to pick-up and impound stray, sick, and injured animals and to maintain a high visibility in problem areas.
- The Animal Control Section performs animal tranquilization and euthanasia when necessary.
- As mandated by State Law, the Animal Control Section reports child abuse/neglect cases to the proper authorities. The Section also reports adult abuse/neglect cases.
- The Animal Control Section investigates reports of animal cruelty, abandoned animals, and possible vicious and nuisance animals. These are followed, when appropriate, by Administrative Hearings, for a determination.
- The Animal Control Section issues, sets and monitors humane animal traps (fee of \$55.00 applies), when requested by a citizen, for the capture of nuisance animals that venture onto their property. After the animal has been captured, staff impounds the animal at the contract facility.
- As mandated by state law, the Section implements a canine licensing program to help protect the public and animals against rabies.
- As mandated by state law, the Animal Control Section, with cooperation from our local veterinarians, provides low cost rabies vaccination clinics for owned dogs and cats.
- The Animal Control Section interacts with the schools, the Hi Desert Nature Museum and the local library to promote responsible pet ownership and animal education. Staff participates in the Ride-Along program, which enables citizens and students, the chance to ride-along with an Animal Control Officer and be educated on the various aspects of the job along with the different situations that present themselves in the animal field. Staff gets involved with the “Career Days” which is held at the different schools.
- The Animal Control Section coordinates with Wildlife Rehabilitation and a Wildlife Veterinarian to ensure the necessary help needed for injured wildlife. When staff receives a request regarding an injured (wildlife) animal, staff responds and evaluates the situation. With the use of the appropriate tools and skills, staff attempts to humanely capture the animal and then transport it to the proper facility.
- The Animal Control Section provides a 24-hour, seven day-a-week emergency service for injured animals (found without their owners), agency assists, or exigent circumstances that arise after normal working hours.
- The Animal Control Section works closely with other agencies in the community, such as the Sheriff’s Department and Fish & Game, to enforce local and state laws.