

Report of the Animal Control Officer

In 2013, the Animal Control Department responded and resolved over 450 calls and complaints. These involved everything from cruelty complaints, lost dogs/cats, found dogs/cats, loose livestock, injured animals, animal bites and abandoned animals.

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) enforces State Laws and Town Ordinances pertaining to domestic animals. Animal Control is dedicated to serving the community as it relates to both humans and animals.

Dog Licensing had several bumps in the road but ultimately we ended up with over 1,100 dogs licensed. Licensing is required by NH Law to ensure all dogs carry a current rabies vaccine. Just over 224 citations were issued this year relating to unlicensed dogs. I am hoping with the E-Dog renewal on the Town of Fremont web page it will be easier than ever to license your dog. Please confirm your phone number is current when licensing your dog. The first thing I do if your dog gets picked up is call you. Unfortunately over the last several years more and more numbers on file have become "not in service". Help me, to help you get your dog returned as quickly as possible and notify you of upcoming licensing deadlines. Accidents happen and dogs get out. Your license tag along with Microchipping your pet are the number one things you can do to protect your animal and get him/her home quickly.

Revenue from dog licensing through the Town Clerk's Office for 2013 totaled \$8,983.50 after payment of State fees. The State of NH collects a portion of every dog license toward the Department of Agriculture's Animal Population Control Program.



Tasha happily wearing her license tags.

Rabies is a viral disease that can be transmitted to humans from animals. Rabies is generally transmitted from an infected wild or domestic animal by a bite, a lick to an open wound or saliva introduced into cuts or membranes of the eyes nose and mouth. It is imperative that medical advice be sought immediately if you think you may have been exposed. To reduce the possibility of exposure never handle wildlife, keep your pets current with vaccines, do not encourage wildlife to feed around your home, and keep all trash secured. A few basic precautions will enable you and your family to continue to enjoy Fremont and New

Hampshire's great outdoors. Please call the Police Department or Animal Control Department at 895 2229 if you see any animal acting strangely or if you have been bit by any animal. Check out www.wildlife.state.nh.us for more helpful information regarding Rabies.

This year the annual Rabies Clinic was again very successful. One and three year vaccines are available. As you may know, once an animal has a vaccine administered it is good for one year. If a second vaccine is administered within the following year that vaccine is now good for 3 years. In 2013 we vaccinated 161 animals and micro chipped 17 dogs.

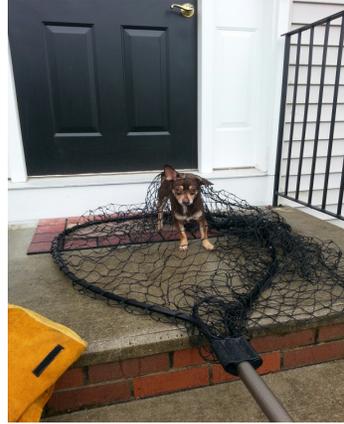
Microchips are the size of a grain of rice and are implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades. I cannot stress the importance of Microchipping your animal. It is one of the first things I check for when picking up any dog or cat. Every shelter in NH is required to scan for a chip on every incoming animal. I have reunited many animals that live near and far away only because they had a microchip. In a few cases the animal had been missing for several months. We have chips available every year at the Rabies Clinic. We use Datamars chips that have FREE lifetime registration.

2014 Rabies Clinic will be held
April 12, 2014
8:00 am to 12:30 pm
Fremont Safety Complex
Rabies Vaccines - Microchips and Licensing

I am available to assist and direct residents on the process of spaying or neutering their family pets through low cost programs available through the State of NH. Programs are available to pet owners whether or not they receive public financial assistance. Spayed and neutered pets are more likely to stay home and have shown to enjoy better health as they grow older.

Over the last couple of years I have received an increase in calls relating to poultry and fowl being "Free Ranged" and wondering around neighbor's yards. These animals can be very destructive to flower beds and lawns and leave a mess everywhere. There is a new Warrant Article proposed to the Fremont voters with new regulations relating to farm animals, poultry and fowl. The regulations will hold owners responsible for animals running at large and damaging public property. This Ordinance mirrors State regulations and will provide clear guidelines for what is required by owners. Please vote YES for Article #4 and feel free to call me if you have any questions. I will be happy to talk about the benefits this Ordinance will provide for the residents of Fremont.

In review of 2013 I had the usual missing and found pets, animal bites, running at large complaints, barking dogs and notifications but as I think back on some harrowing rescues involving three different owls, a duck in a chimney, a wild cat that wandered into a house and of course I never will forget the smallest, most vicious dog I have ever handled. I am grateful that I am able to not only help the animals in need but the residents of Fremont as well.



I can be reached through the Police Department at 603 895 2229 for any questions, inquiries or complaints.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee King
Fremont Animal Control Officer

