

Report of the Animal Control Officer

In 2019, there were over 391 calls and/or complaints pertaining to Animal Control. These involved everything from cruelty complaints, lost dogs/cats, found dogs/cats, feral cats, loose livestock, injured animals, animal bites, abandoned animals, wildlife acting funny, wildlife acting normal. These came along with maintaining licensing and serving civil forfeitures.

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

Dog Licensing had over 1,300 dogs licensed in 2019. Licensing is required by NH Law to ensure all dogs carry a current rabies vaccine. Over 284 civil forfeitures were issued this year relating to unlicensed dogs. This count is up from last year. It's easier than ever to license online. **Save the fine, license on time:** <https://www.fremont.nh.gov/town-clerk/pages/dog-licenses>

Licensing is required by law and aids in getting your dog home quickly when they wander. Accidents happen and dogs get out. Current licenses can be the difference between being returned in minutes or an overnight stay at the kennel. Please confirm your phone number is correct so you can be contacted quickly in any event related to your dog. Cell numbers are best.

2019 Dog License Revenue
License Fees \$8,954.00
Late Fees \$401.00
Civil Forfeiture Fees \$3,390.00

Less the Mandatory State of NH payout to the overpopulation program and Department of Agriculture that was \$2,627.00 from Fremont.
Total Revenue \$10,118.00

New Hampshire has great companion animal spay/neuter programs. \$2.00 from every license goes to the companion overpopulation fund and \$0.50 of each license goes to the NH Department of Agriculture for the operation of the veterinary diagnostic lab. These programs put New Hampshire in the group of top contenders for minimal shelter overcrowding.

2019 was busy with wildlife issues. Every year a specific species peak. This year it was fox. I received calls almost every day throughout the spring, summer and fall of sightings. Most of the time it was normal behavior however with so many foxes being prevalent, mange also became a factor. It is interesting how nature builds in checks and balances to handle the situation. Please always keep your distance and call in unusual behavior. Fremont did have some bear sightings with limited activity. Surrounding towns were hit much harder. Hopefully this is because more and more residents are following the advice from myself and NH Fish and Game by keeping bird feeders up only during the suggested timeframes. Birdfeeders not only feed birds they attract tons of wildlife big and small. The food chain is fascinating, there are so

many ways to help wildlife and feeding them is not one of them. Allowing healthy wildlife to maintain the tasks they are accustomed to undertaking helps us all in the long run.



As always there are a few calls that really stand out during the year. This year it was the Bob Cat that was hit by a car the morning of Bulky Day. It amazes me to see such magnificent animals up close. Thankfully 5 Alarm Rescue out of Epping was able to respond. He provided necessary care over the course of a week to get him ready to go back to his territory.

Another interesting call was for a homing pigeon in the local nursing home. Took a few hours but it finally came down from the ledge inside the vaulted ceiling. It was able to be caught and released to continue its journey home.



The Fremont Community Facebook page is being used to report Animal Control related events. I do not monitor Facebook 24/7 nor Facebook Messenger on a regular basis. If you are experiencing an Animal Control issue, please call the Police Department at 603 895 2229. If it is after business hours the call will roll to Rockingham County Dispatch and they will contact me directly. Facebook is an excellent resource if you are missing or find a pet, but it is imperative that you still call it in. Not everyone is on Facebook. In most cases I can tell you where the animal lives or if someone has found your animal.

The 2019 annual Rabies Clinic was again very successful. One- and three-year vaccines are available. As you may or may not know, once an animal has a vaccine administered it is good for one year. When a second vaccine is administered that vaccine is now good for 3 years. In 2019 we vaccinated over 160 animals and micro chipped 19 animals.

2020 Rabies Clinic
Saturday April 11, 2020
8:30 am to 1:30 pm
Fremont Safety Complex

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. I have chips available every year at the Rabies Clinic. I use Datamars chips that have FREE lifetime registration

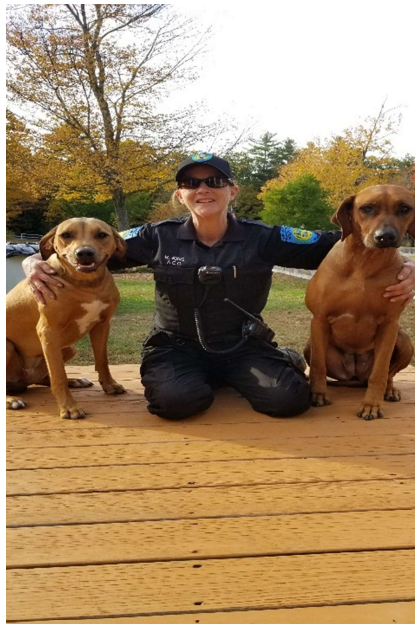
Proceeds from this year's Rabies Clinic were used in part to help The Fremont Food Panty, individual Fremont residents and provide care for several Fremont animals in need.

The training I attended in 2019 included: The Great Dane Case Review, Police/Dog Encounters, Evidence Collection/Photo Field Guide, Court Expectations, Officer Safety for ACO's and Warrant Writing.

Please call if you have any animal related concern, as I am happy to provide any information or resources that I have. I can be reached through the Police Department at 603 895 2229 for any questions, inquires or complaints.

Respectfully submitted,

ACO Renee King
Fremont Police



"Animals are such agreeable friends – they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms."

~ George Eliot