

Report of the Animal Control Officer

In 2020, There were over 265 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 and wildlife acting normal; 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 in Fremont saw over 1093 dogs licensed in 2020. Licensing is required by NH Law to ensure all dogs carry a current rabies vaccine. With Covid-19 restrictions this year, licensing dogs was challenging especially if your dog needed to get an updated Rabies vaccine. Over 254 civil forfeitures were issued this year relating to unlicensed dogs. It is easier than ever to license online. Save the fine, license on time. Currently fines from 2020 are still in effect for the 2021 license year. If you have a problem with licensing your dog or no longer have your dog, please call me at 895 2229 or email nhk9cop@comcast.net. I do not monitor that email 24/7 but will contact you back as soon as possible.

To license online visit <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.

2020 Dog License Revenue
License Fees \$8,695.50
Late Fees \$492.00
Civil Forfeiture Fees \$2,700.00
Dog Fines \$200.00

Less the Mandatory State of NH payout to the overpopulation program and Department of Agriculture that was \$2,398.50 from Fremont.

Total Revenue \$9,689.00

New Hampshire has a great companion animal spay/neuter programs. Two dollars (\$2.00) from every license goes to the companion overpopulation fund and fifty cents (\$0.50) of each license goes to the 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.



2020 had the highest number of reports of wildlife sightings in the 13 years I have been ACO. As everybody hunkered down at home people witnessed what wildlife does, roam around, sun themselves, and scavenge for food. It was interesting and enlightening to hear people's reaction to seeing different species for the first time. I enjoyed being able to pass on educational information related to wildlife. Bears and bobcats, which are typically rarely seen, made their presence known all throughout Fremont. I was even lucky enough to see this bear cruising through my own yard.

The Fremont Community Facebook page is still being used on occasion 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 need to 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 2020 Rabies Clinic regretfully ended up being cancelled. I am working hard to ensure that a clinic in 2021 will happen. I feel this event is needed and is heavily utilized by Fremont residents. The Fremont clinic on average vaccinates approximately 150 animals and microchips on average 15-25 animals a year. I feel that is a substantial number and warrants the clinic as a necessity. With safety in mind, I would like to host a drive through clinic at the Highway Garage on Danville Road. More details to come. Watch for postings on the Fremont Community Facebook page, Fremont Police Facebook page, email nhk9cop@comcast.net or call me at 895 2229.

2021 Rabies Clinic is tentatively for

April 10, 2021

Time and Location TBA

Rabies Vaccines \$15 Microchips \$25

Licensing \$7.50/\$10.00

Microchips are the size of a grain of rice and are implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades. I cannot **stress** enough 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.

Unfortunately, all of 2020 training classes and seminars were cancelled. Thankfully, NH has a great NH Animal Control Association, and its members are only a click away. We were able to group chat and discuss issues that arose over 2020.

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 Department



Libby and Penny King

Photos courtesy of Renee King