

Report of the Animal Control Officer

In 2015, The Animal Control Department responded and resolved over 512 calls and complaints. These involved everything from cruelty complaints, lost dogs/cats, found dogs/cats, loose livestock, injured animals, animal bites, abandoned animals and maintaining licensing.

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 over 1,158 dogs licensed this year. Licensing is required by NH Law to ensure all dogs carry a current rabies vaccine. Only 59 civil forfeitures were issued this year relating to unlicensed dogs. This count is the lowest to date since I became the ACO. I am hoping that the use of social media, mailings, letters and calling dog owners prior the fine being implemented made such a big difference. Licensing is required by law and is a huge aid to get 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.

2015 Dog License Revenue

License Fees \$8,532.00

Late Fees \$335.50

Civil Forfeiture Fees \$1,800.00

The mandatory State of NH payout to the Overpopulation Program and Department of Agriculture is a total of \$2,957.50

Total Revenue \$10,675.50 collected less fees paid of \$2,957.50 yields \$7,710.00

New Hampshire has great companion animal spay/neuter programs. \$2.00 from every license goes to the companion overpopulation fund and \$.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.

The 2015 annual Rabies Clinic was again very successful. One and three year vaccines are available. 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 2015 we vaccinated 129 animals and micro chipped 11 dogs.

2016 Rabies Clinic will be held on April 9, 2016

8:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Safety Complex

Rabies Vaccines - Microchips and Licensing

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. 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.



In 2015, I was able to reunite several dogs that had gone missing from a neighboring town and ended up in Fremont. The one that stands out is the dog from Salem MA. He was visiting over in Epping with his owner when fireworks scared him off. With two weeks of bitter cold in February and several snow storms he was able to find shelter and scrounge around through trash barrels to find food. He traveled between Epping, Brentwood and Fremont. Sightings were called in but he wanted no part of any human contact. Finally, I was able to narrow in on his location. While in route to pick up and place a trap out from him he decided to take a nap on someone's back deck. When the homeowner saw him they used incredible patience and lured him into the basement with a nice bowl of food. I believe

he was very lucky, as you can see in the photo he was a "bag of bones" by the time he was caught. Fireworks are petrifying for dogs. They will bolt without hesitation. July 4th is without a doubt the most popular date that dogs go missing. Most of them make it home but year after year many do not. Collars with tags and microchips are a must.

Over the last year I have noticed the use of the Fremont Community Facebook page has been very helpful in spreading the word of a lost or found pet. Remember it's always important to notify Animal Control as well. A couple of times this year I had information but did not see the FB page until hours or days later.



Wildlife was very active this fall. I think it was due to the dry summer. The spruce swamp area was busy with sightings of bobcat, fox, deer, moose and a bear. As always keep clear and let wildlife meander in its way. To avoid nuisance wildlife, remember to take bird feeders by April 1st, always keep trash covered and never ever feed wildlife on purpose.

*Hawk on Spaulding Road
Photo Courtesy of Bob Meade*

Wildlife that does not fear humans will most certainly become a problem down the road. If you see sick or wounded wildlife, please call it in. You and your families' safety is always important.

The training I attended this year included livestock behavior, dealing with illegal wildlife possession, coyote conflict resolutions and the link between human violence/abuse and animal cruelty.

The Santa parade is always a great time. I love seeing the whole family out waving to Santa including your four legged furry friends. It was interesting this year I noticed some of the regular dogs on the route were anticipating their treat. It was pretty cool.

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

Respectfully submitted,

ACO Renee King
Fremont Police

