

## **Report of the Animal Control Officer**

In 2010, the Animal Control Department responded to and resolved over 420 calls and complaints. These involved everything from cruelty complaints, lost dogs/cats, found dogs/cats, injured animals, animal bites and abandoned animals.

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

The ACO also investigates animal cruelty complaints. There are many different forms of cruelty ranging from depriving pets from sufficient shelter, food, water, medical treatment, abandonment to actual abuse. Some animals live in inhumane situations because people are afraid to report it or “just don’t want to get involved.” Animals need your help to be their voice. Please if you know of a situation or something “just doesn’t seem right” please call and be the voice that makes a difference. Most of the time education is all that is needed. Not only does it improve the animals situation but also the owners.

In 2010 we had several instances of animals being abandoned here in town. With tough economic times some people are just not able to care for their pets and feel that leaving it on the side of the road is an acceptable choice. There are many agencies available to help and I am more than happy to assist with this transition. If you see or hear of a situation like this, please encourage them to call me. I will make every effort to come to an agreeable resolution that is beneficial for both the owner and the animal. If you see an unfamiliar animal in your area please call as it could mean the difference between life and death for an animal that has been abandoned.

Dog licensing is required by NH State Statute RSA 466:1. The law is enforced to help protect citizens against a rabies outbreak. ALL dogs AND cats are required to be vaccinated against rabies per NH RSA 436:105 III before being licensed. At this time cats are not required to be licensed however they are still required to be vaccinated.

In April of 2010 the Animal Control Department and the Police Association held a community rabies clinic, where over 195 animals were vaccinated. Microchips and licensing were also offered.

**The 2011 clinic will be held  
April 16, 2011  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Rabies, Microchips, and Licensing  
Fremont Safety Complex**

I am knowledgeable about what kinds of wildlife you may encounter in your backyard and am able to advise or direct you to the appropriate agency if needed. Sick or wounded wildlife needs to be reported to the ACO or the Police Department as soon as possible.

Animal bites either from wildlife or a domestic animal **need** to be reported as soon as possible. It will be determined if current vaccines have been obtained for the animal or if it needs to be tested. Rabies is a very serious issue and could be fatal if not treated properly. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

One of the many highlights in 2010 was a call I received on a cold night in November regarding an owl sitting in the middle of Beede Hill Road. Upon arrival it was quickly determined that it must have been hit by a car while it was hunting. It was stunned but looked to be in OK shape. I was able to get it in a crate and transport it back to the kennel for some rest and observation. In the morning she seemed better but was still not ready to fly away. I located a "Birds of Prey" rehabilitator in Henniker and off "Ms Hoot" went for a two week vacation. When she was ready to be released I picked her up and released her back into Fremont. I hear her hooting out back from time to time and that gives me great joy.



Please look for additional information on the Animal Control web page located on the Fremont Police Department Website.

I can be reached through the **Fremont Police Department at 603-895-2229.**

Respectfully submitted,

Renee King  
Fremont Animal Control