



Growing Families One Pet at a Time

DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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Animal Control Changes Adopted by Commissioners

The Collier County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday voted to adopt a new Animal Control Ordinance that will strengthen regulations concerning dangerous dogs.

The Domestic Animal Services Advisory Board and Domestic Animal Services leadership proposed numerous changes to improve the agency's ability to monitor dangerous dogs, establish recourse if owners fail to register dangerous dogs and to better inform the public of ongoing animal control issues.

Mandatory Spay/Neuter

Upon adoption of the ordinance, all animals leaving the DAS shelter will be spayed or neutered. This includes lost pets impounded by Domestic Animal Services upon return to their owners and dogs declared dangerous. The cost of spay/neuter is the responsibility of the animal's owner.

Animals adopted from DAS will continue to be spayed/neutered, as required by state law, at no additional cost to adopting families.

Exceptions to this rule will be made for breeding animals in good standing or when the surgery would be injurious to the animal's health if certified by a local licensed veterinarian.

Dangerous Dogs

The \$300 registration fee for a declared dangerous dog remains the same and the dog must be registered within 14 days of the declaration. Dangerous dogs must also be re-registered annually thereafter. DAS may charge a \$10 per day late fee if a dangerous dog is not registered on time.

Changes approved for adoption today allow for DAS to impound a dog if an owner fails to re-register the animal within 45 days of its annual renewal date. If the impounded dangerous dog is not re-registered within 30 days following the impoundment, DAS may humanely dispose of the animal.

Dangerous dog photographs will also be posted to the DAS website www.collierpets.com in the coming weeks. Currently, the website lists only the locations and names of declared dangerous dogs, as well as regulations.

The Board of County Commissioners also requested that in the description of a dangerous dog the word “vicious” be added.

Additionally, DAS may now impound an animal under investigation if the pet’s owner refuses or is unable to confine the animal properly. Dangerous dogs must be muzzled and leashed when off the owner’s property.

DAS may refuse the registration of any animal without a current rabies vaccination.

Visit DAS online to find out more at www.collierpets.com.
For more information, call DAS at (239) 252-PETS (7387).

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