



# Collier County Government



Public Services Division  
Domestic Animal Services  
7610 Davis Boulevard  
Naples, FL 34104

Public Information Coordinator  
Camden Smith  
(239) 252-5326  
[www.collierpets.com](http://www.collierpets.com)  
[www.twitter.com/collierpio](http://www.twitter.com/collierpio)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NEW DAS HOURS OFFER MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKING PEOPLE

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**Domestic Animal Services (DAS) • 7610 Davis Blvd., Naples, FL 34104**

Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS) will change its business hours beginning Oct. 1. The shelter will be open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Adoptions will continue to begin at 11 a.m. each day and will be processed through closing time.

“We took hourly door counts to assess peak customer visitation and adjusted our hours to meet demand. The majority of clients come late in the afternoon, and we felt being open longer Saturdays would open up opportunity for more adoptions and for owners to reclaim lost animals,” said DAS Director Amanda Townsend.

Previously, the animal shelter had an alternating schedule that closed the shelter at 5 p.m. three days a week. The new schedule adds four and a half open hours after regular business hours.

“We are also proud to announce that we have adjusted the Animal Control Officer schedules to provide round-the-clock service,” Townsend said.

Previously, Animal Control Officers worked on call between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. seven days a week and now an officer will be actively on duty 24 hours a day with the exception of third shift on Saturdays and Sundays.

Townsend added, “In a tighter staffing and budgetary environment, it became necessary for Animal Control Officers to respond to priority calls only, such as dog bites in the evening hours. However, the new shift rotation will allow officers to respond to all calls, which will improve our service to the public.”

DAS handles between nine and ten thousand service calls each year. This includes picking up stray animals, bite investigations, animal cruelty and neglect investigations, and investigating complaints such as barking dogs and sanitary nuisances.

For more information about Domestic Animal Services, visit [www.collierpets.com](http://www.collierpets.com).