

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Whom do I contact concerning animal Complaint issues?

Answer: Colleton County Animal & Environmental Control, 33 Poor Farm Road Walterboro, SC 29488, or 843-893-2651. The Animal Control takes all complaints regarding domestic animal disturbances such as dogs running at large, strays, livestock and animal abuse. The officer will investigate the complaint and initiate action for resolution as required. The on call Animal Control Officer will response only to emergency after hours. For emergencies you must contact Colleton County Sheriff' dispatch or 911 for the on call animal control officer.

Q: Whom do I contact concerning wildlife matters or issues?

Answer: South Carolina Department of Natural Resources handles all wildlife. Or Keepers of the Wild.

Q: What should be done with a dead animal?

Answer: Contact The Public Service and Facilities Department for assistance in disposal of dead animals on public property or roads. If the dead animal is on private property, the property owner is responsible for providing the necessary steps for the proper treatment or disposal. (Burial or Cremation). The removal of the animal must be done within 12 hours.

Q: What should be done with an injured stray animal?

Answer: Colleton County Ordinance Title 6. Chapter 6.04.120 Injured or dead animals. Any person who strikes a pet or domestic animal with a motor vehicle or bicycle and injures or kills the animal must immediately attempt to notify the owner of said animal. If the owner cannot be found, the person who struck the animal shall immediately notify Animal and Environmental Control at (843)-893-2651 or the Animal Care Services (Your Local Veterinarian Office). After hours contact animal emergency clinics.

Q: Does Colleton County Have leash law?

Answer: Colleton County Ordinance Title 6 Chapter 6.04.040 Restraint: It is unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to permit same to run at large at any time upon any street or highway or other property within Colleton County, except upon the property owned or rented by the owner or custodian. The animal shall be deemed to be "Running at Large" when the animal is off the property of the owner and not under the immediate and direct supervision of a responsible person, owner, or keeper by means of leash or similar restraining device and or obedient to the person's commands.

Q: What should be done or who should be called if you find or lose a pet or animal?

Answer: Missing or lost animals should be reported to Animal and Environmental Control as soon as the animal becomes missing. Come to the animal shelter and look for your pet: Only you know what you know what your pet looks like. Fill out a missing or found animal report: Bring a photo of your animal to post with the report.

Q. How may I adopt an animal?

Answer: Adopting animal from the shelter is easy. You must be 17 years old and have a valid Identification or Drivers License. There is an adoption fee to take an available animal home. The shelter will provide the required certification of examination for Colleton County. All animals are provided with initial vaccinations and preventative worming. All animals are spayed or neutered before adoptions.

Q. Do dogs and cats have to be vaccinated for rabies?

Answer: South Carolina State laws and Colleton County Ordinance 6.04.030 states that all dogs and cats must be currently vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian yearly at the age of (3) months and older. The rabies vaccination tag must be displayed around the animal's neck.

Q: Does Colleton County Animal Control has dog and cat traps available for capture of stray dogs and cats?

Answer: Yes, the citizen would need to contact Animal and Environmental Control and sign an agreement for placement and usage of the trap.

Q: Does Colleton County Pick up animals?

Answer: Yes, Animal and Environmental Control will pickup stray animals. Owned Pets and animals must be brought to the animal shelter by the owner and signed the animal over to the shelter, a small fee is charged for the turn-in of each animal.

Q: How long is an animal keep at the shelter?

Answer: 6.04.060 g. Seizure of pets or domestic animals: Within twenty-four (24) hours after any animals impounded at the shelter shall remain impounded for **not less than 5 days**. Thereafter such animal or pet shall become the property of Colleton County Animal and Environmental Control and may be placed for adoption or humanely euthanized by an injection. This is the same procedure used by private veterinarians. However, the animal can also be placed in a rescue, or in a foster home. This will be done at the discretion of the director of animal and Environmental control.

6.04080 Owner relinquishment: Immediately upon completion of relinquishment procedures, the pet or animal shall become the property of the Colleton County Animal and Environment Control and may be placed for adoption or humanely euthanized.

Q: Will you call me before my pet is put to Sleep?

Answer: No. We cannot accept the responsibility for notifying you in the event we cannot find a home for your pet. The best time to change your mind about giving up your pet is before you turn it into the animal shelter.

Q: How may I reclaim or resume possession of my pet or animal?

Answer: The owner shall be entitled to resume possession of an impounded pet or animal within 10 days from the time of notification. There is an impoundment reclaim fee of \$25.00 dollars and a daily care fee of \$5.00 per day. If all such requirements are not made within (10) ten day time period, the pet or animal shall be deemed abandoned and shall immediately and irrevocably become the property of Colleton County Animal and Environmental Control to convey, devise, dispose of or otherwise destroy as the county sees fit.

Q: How much does it cost to turn in a stray animal?

Answer: nothing: There is any charge if you bring a stray animal into the shelter. You will need to bring a valid IDS or drivers license. It is absolutely critical that any stray animal is turned into the animal shelter someone many be looking for their pet. This assists owners greatly in knowing where to start their search for their lost pet.

Q: Will it cost me anything for the shelter to accept a pet that I own?

Answer: Yes: There is a \$5.00 fee and you must bring the pet to the shelter. We request that you bring all veterinarian medical records or papers on the animal. This will help us in placing and evaluating the animal.

For more information on [Colleton County Animal Ordinances and Laws](#): Please reference on line [Colleton County, SC](#). Click on: Colleton County Code Ordinances: Select Title 6 **Animals**: select and click on: **Chapters: 6.04 Animal Care and Control Regulations**. Or call Colleton County Animal Environmental Control at 1-(843) 893-2651. E-Mail ccaec@colletoncounty.org.