

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 19 Oct '15

Rea Cord

Executive Director

Final reminder to all of our HSEC Members about our Annual Meeting Tuesday, 20 October, 6 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Hwy 231, Wetumpka. Join us to review our accomplishments & future plans and meet all who care about the future of our shelter! We will also be voting for new officers so please join us!

For our supporters that work for the Alabama State or Federal Government and want to donate financially, no better way than through the 2014 State and Federal Combined Campaigns. If you are a State of Alabama employee, then you can donate to us through the State Combined Campaign and our Agency Code is 106803. Federal employees (which includes active military) can donate to us through the Combined Federal Campaign and our Agency Code is 70006. These campaigns are critical to non-profits and help make donating to deserving charities easy as supporters can donate either one time or via monthly payroll deduction. We want to thank all who so generously donate to help not only our shelter, but non-profit agencies everywhere.

Don't forget to keep voting for us in the Shelter Challenge and our chance to win \$1000 for our pets! We jumped out in the lead but need our supporters help to stay there. Please go to www.shelterchallenge.com where you can vote every day from work, home, school, smart phone, etc. Once there the easiest way to find us is to type in our zip of 36092 or Wetumpka, AL. Some web browsers do not work with this site, so if you have problems, please first try a different browser to access the site. Thanks everyone for taking literally just a minute of your time every day to help us win big for our animals!

We have seen a lot of Facebook postings and know of quite a few instances lately of loose livestock in our county and just keep hoping that no one will end up seriously injured or killed from hitting loose horses or cattle on one of our roadways. Owners of livestock not only have a neighborly obligation to keep their animals contained, they also are required to maintain adequate fencing by Alabama State Law so that these animals don't endanger the public or themselves.

Section 3-5-2 of the Alabama Code makes it unlawful for the owner of any livestock to knowingly, voluntarily, negligently or willfully permit such livestock to go at large either upon the premises of another or upon the public lands, highways, roads or streets. Furthermore, any person(s) owning or having the possession, custody or control of any livestock who unlawfully and knowingly permit the same to run or be at large, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. There is no "open range" in Alabama for livestock.

Alabama Code takes this even further and defines minimally required fencing in explicit detail for cattle, horses, or all livestock in general. This means that owners with fencing that does not comply with Alabama Law and who don't take the effort to repair or build a fence to the "Code" could find themselves in a courtroom for damages caused by their livestock as a result of them continually getting out. This law is not directed at those 'one-time' instances of a tree falling and taking out a section of fence, or a gate being accidentally left open – we all know animals don't exactly understand property lines at those times. But these fencing laws do exist for a reason. For the sake of people and animals alike, if you own livestock, please make sure your fences and gates are adequate to contain your animals and that you make immediate repairs in the event of a breach. If you are not familiar with the legal fencing requirements in Alabama email the shelter at hselco@bellsouth.net and we will send you that excerpt from the Code of Alabama.