

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 28 Mar ‘16
Rea Cord
Executive Director

The Humane Society of Elmore County is a sheltering agency for animals that are brought to us from within Elmore County. We field a lot of calls about stray & nuisance animals, but we do not have the authority to pick up animals as that is the responsibility of the various city and county Animal Control Officers (ACO). Upon request from these officers we will assist in cruelty and neglect cases by helping with the investigation & documentation as to the condition of the animal(s) involved and their recovery pending a court case.

If you are in need of animal control assistance for a stray or problem animal, or to report instances of animal neglect or cruelty, please call the appropriate **Animal Control Officer below**. If you live within the city limits of any of the towns noted below you must call your city contact. If you are not in the city limits of any of the towns listed below or your town is not listed, then call the Elmore County Sheriff's ACO.

Wetumpka: 567-1327/5321

Millbrook: 285-6832

Tallassee: 283-6586

Elmore County Sheriff's Dispatch: 567-1426

Eclectic: 541-2149;

Coosada: 285-3700

Elmore Township: 514-5988

A question we are asked almost daily is, "how long do we keep animals brought to us?" In general stray animals are held at our facility for seven days in accordance with Section 3-7A-7 of the Alabama Code so that the pet's owner can come to reclaim it. When a person comes to reclaim an animal we will ask questions to verify that this pet does indeed belong to them because in the eyes of the law pets are 'property' and it is our responsibility to safeguard them while they are in our care. This also means we will only release them to the owner unless the owner has given us authorization for another person to pick that pet up. In all cases we will require identification such as a driver's license before releasing the pet.

There are fees associated with reclaiming a pet. If the pet was picked up by an ACO there will be a pick-up fee and in many town ordinances these fees increase every subsequent pick up. It is important to note that multiple pick-ups can also result in the owner having to go to court. If the pet does not have a current rabies tag on its collar, we will need proof from the owner that the vaccination is current. If the pet (dog, cat or ferret) is overdue on its rabies vaccination there will be a \$10 fee towards a rabies vaccination that can be done by any area veterinarian. Last, there is a boarding fee to cover the costs we have incurred housing and caring for your pet and we charge \$15/day per each dog or cat. For livestock there may be an additional hauling fee if we have had to assist the animal control in transporting the animal using the shelter livestock trailer. Livestock boarding fees can range from \$15 - \$25 per day depending on the species and feed requirements.

Alabama Law (Section 3-7A-4) requires that dogs & cats have their rabies tag attached to their collar or harness at all times and if the tag is current, your pet will generally be reunited with you the same day - it works! We further encourage you to talk to your veterinarian about microchipping your pet to help us get it home to you in the event it loses its tag or collar.

If you have lost your pet call us to report it that same day at 334-567-3377, post it to our "[Lost & Found Pets in Elmore County AL](#)" Facebook page and/or send us an email to hselco@bellsouth.net. We cannot stress enough the importance of photos, so if you don't already have handy digital photos on your phone or computer, please take some soon. Photos can truly make the difference as one person's description can be very different from what another person is interpreting. In the end there is nothing we truly like more than reuniting a lost pet with its very relieved and happy owner.