

Animal Services News

April 20, 2016

SELECT SHELTER STATS

- **Our adjusted live release rate for the month of March was 91 percent (n=224)**
- **We had 100 transfers—possibly an all-time high—in March largely thanks to Carolina Waterfowl Rescue taking 80 gamecocks to be rehomed**
- **Quarterly (Q1) Comparison for 2016 and 2015**
 - **Euthanasia is down by about one third (96 vs 143)**
 - **Overall, intakes are down – 5 percent for cats (172 vs. 182) and 10 percent for dogs (330 vs. 367)**
 - **Absolute live releases are up by 102 animals (519 vs. 417)**
 - **Our unadjusted live release rate is up (82 percent vs. 73 percent)**
 - **Strangely, dog adoptions are down (140 to 192)**

Post-Exposure Rabies Management

- **Attached are our new operating guidelines, developed in coordination with Orange County's Health Director on the basis of the 2016 Compendium of Rabies**
- **Changes apply to cats and dogs, while ferrets will be mostly managed as in the past**
- **Changes for dogs and cats include a 4 (vs. 6) month quarantine for unvaccinated animals, and a booster vaccination for animals with current vaccination or a lapsed but documented vaccination**
- **Other significant changes include:**
 - **The possibility of titer testing for dogs and cats without a current vaccination or documentation of a past vaccination**
 - **A 45-day period of home "control and observation for dogs" and cats that have received a booster shot within 96 hours of their (suspected) exposure**
 - **The requirement for animals to have an exam by a veterinarian, in addition to a booster vaccination**
- **The Health Director and Animal Services Director are planning to communicate again with area veterinary clinics in to increase awareness of these changes**

Odds & Ends

- **Staff had a very positive meeting with Corey Root, Orange County's new Homeless Program Coordinator**
 - **One next step is to meet with staff and some members of the Animal Services Advisory Board**
 - **A following step may be to create a work group to make some specific recommendations**
- **We are on the brink of converting all stainless steel cat "cages" so that adjacent enclosures are connected by a pass-through with a door**
 - **Conversion kits available from the Shelter Medicine Program at the University of California, Davis are on site and a contractor's agreement is being drafted**

- *This project is made possible by donations received through the Orange County Community Giving Fund.*
- *We are in the process of creating a Facebook page dedicated to our placement partners, that is, the rescue groups with whom we have transfer agreements*
 - *A prime benefit is more efficient and effective communication with and between numerous rescue groups in regard to animals available for rescue transfer*
 - *Other organizations have found a dedicated Facebook page to save vast amounts of time and produce higher number of rescue transfers, and have found it to be a preferred method for communication about these needs among rescue organizations*

Staffing & Staff Development

- **Positions and Internships**
 - *We are in the process of filling two vacant Animal Care Technician positions*
 - *We've created an Animal Care Supervisor position from an Animal Care Technician position which we are in the process of filling*
 - *We've created a Veterinary Health Care Technician Internship which we appear to be ready to fill with a student from the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine*
- **Training and Development**
 - *A roundtable discussion of wildlife issues was held with the NC Wildlife Resource Commission District Wildlife Biologist and the Orange County Master Enforcement Office plus the Executive Director of CLAWS*
 - *CLAWS provided a basic training and refresher for responding to and referring springtime wildlife questions and service requests was offered to all staff*
 - *Two Animal Care Technicians and one Office Assistant recently attended a Sheltering 101 class sponsored by the North Carolina Animal Federation*
 - *Two Animal Control Officers will be attending the National Animal Control and Humane Officer Level II Training Academy in Concord, NC in May*
 - *Our Communications Specialist recently attended a conference for NC City and County Communicators in mid-April*

COMING EVENTS

- *Ongoing is our Spring Adoption Special for the month of April (all adoptions fees are reduced by half)*
- *Our seventh (7th) Annual Open House will be held from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday June 4 at the Animal Services Center*
- *Our next low cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held from 5 to 7 pm, Thursday, May 12 at the Eno River Farmers Market in Hillsborough*