

Animal Services News  
January 20, 2016

**RABIES PREVENTION AND CONTROL UPDATE**

- *In 2015, fourteen low-cost rabies clinics were offered and 1014 vaccinations were given*
  - *544 dogs and 470 cats received vaccinations (attached graph)*
- *Thirteen (13) low-cost rabies clinics will be offered in 2016*
- *In 2015, there were 10 laboratory confirmed rabies cases*
  - *They consisted of 5 bats, 3 raccoons, 1 fox, and 1 skunk*
- *Recall that this is NOT all rabies cases but only ones confirmed by SLPH*
- *Ten rabies cases is the fewest cases in the last decade and a welcome relief from the 23 confirmed cases of 2014 (attached historical graph)*

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- *December adoptions totaled 132 and the live release rate was 92 percent*
  - *72 cats, 53 dogs, and 7 other kinds of animals were adopted*
- *Animal Services received a donation of \$6,219 from The Animal Hospital of Carrboro*
  - *The donation is dedicated in equal part to medical care and free-roaming cats*
  - *The donation will be administered through the Community Giving Fund*
- *There's a possibility we may be able to create an annual grant program for animal welfare work in Orange County*
  - *Prompted by an offer of a \$5,000 donation in honor of Pat Sanford, former Executive Director of the Animal Protection Society of Orange County*
  - *Exploring whether an award program could be part of the outside agency funding process and thus involve both staff and the ASAB*
- *Animal Services received a \$3,944 ASPCA animal cruelty investigation grant for:*
  - *A veterinary forensics kit available from Trittech Forensics*
  - *Two (2) "bridge" cameras for crime scene and animal documentation*
  - *Two (2) laser measuring devices and two (2) field binoculars*
  - *Assorted materials for a crime scene center, e.g., canopy, lamps and lights, etc.*
- *In 2016, incidentally, North Carolina and Florida are key states for the ASPCA for animal cruelty investigations and related support.*

**CHANGES IN COMMUNITY SPAY AND NEUTER**

- *Significant changes have occurred in the NC Spay Neuter Reimbursement Program*
  - *Only a household income of less than 100 percent of the federal poverty level qualifies*
  - *All local veterinarians must have an opportunity to participate*
- *We have been involved in a transition as a result of these changes including*

- *Less reliance upon AnimalKind and more reliance upon SNAP-NC*
- *We are now reaching stability on the basis of the following*
  - *AnimalKind will continue to provide no-pay vouchers for pet owners on public assistance and with a household income of less than 200 percent*
  - *AnimalKind will also distribute an Orange County brochure and continue to identify households qualifying for reimbursement*
- *The income loss from reimbursement may be up to as much as \$12,000 and additional funds will thus be requested as part of the FY2016-2017 to sustain the program*

**FY2016 2017 BUDGET**

- *The budget process is now underway for the coming fiscal year and it has been restructured to incorporate leadership teams, e.g, Public Safety and Community Relations*
- *Animal Services will be requesting another FTE for an animal care technician to alleviate staffing challenges and staff stress*
- *Animal Services will also be requesting another vehicle with an “animal-mobile” unit with heating and air conditioning, among other smaller items*
- *No new fees except for adjustments to cover customary practices (e.g., lower fees for licensing for puppies and kittens) are foreseen at this time.*
- *There will be some revenue implications of the microchipping required by the Unified Animal Ordinance(UAO) after its adoption*
- *Other fee changes arising from the adoption of the UAO include the differential as well as tiered recovery schedule for reproductive versus intact animals and the (refundable) sterilization deposit*