

After Hours Emergency Service



Shelby County Animal Control provides after-hours response in order to protect the health and safety of animals and the public. On-call Animal Control Officers respond only to emergencies such as injured animals, animal bites, and severe animal cruelty situations which immediately threaten an animals life. The on-call officer can be reached by calling dispatch at 502-633-2323, or by calling 911. Please call the shelter during normal business hours for any non-emergency need.

Animal Cruelty Investigations

Shelby County Animal Control is dedicated to the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the county by enforcing State and Local Animal Welfare Laws and Ordinances. Animal Control investigates complaints of animal abuse, neglect, dog fighting, unlawful killing, and abandonment. Animal Control follows up on complaints of animals kept without adequate care.

Citizens observing any of these situations should contact Shelby County Animal Control directly at 502-633-0009. In order to ensure a complaint is properly investigated, citizens should attempt to obtain the exact address of the location where the incident is taking place. If the address is not visible, cross streets or the addresses on either side of the location should be obtained. It is also helpful, but not necessary, to leave your contact information in case the officer needs additional information.

Leash Law

Dog owners are required to keep their dog under their immediate control any time the dog is off their property. In order for an Animal Control Officer to issue a citation, the officer must directly observe a violation. For violations that occur outside an officers presence, an officer will be dispatched to the animal owners residence to speak to the owner.

Lost / Found Animals

Shelby County Animal Shelter maintains a list of lost and found pets and records of every animal admitted to the shelter. It is recommended citizens who have lost a pet make regular visits to the shelter. A description of a lost animal may not look to us like something we have in the shelter.

Pet Licensing

All dogs, cats, and ferrets residing in Shelby County over the age of 4 months are required by State and Local law to be vaccinated for Rabies and have a current county license. County licenses are good for 1 fiscal year and are required to be purchased by June 30th every year. A license must also be purchased during the year if a resident acquires an animal during the year, moves into the area from another county or state, or a pet becomes 4 months old within that time. Licenses are only available for purchase at the Shelby County Animal Shelter at 266 Kentucky Street in Shelbyville, or at one of many clinics the Health Department holds each June and July. Veterinarians do not supply license or tags for licensing.

Rabies Control

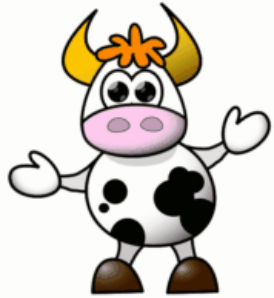
Citizens can report animal bites to Shelby County Animal Control or to the Health Department

Citizens can report animal bites to Shelby County Animal Control or to the Health Department at 502-633-9377. The Health Department investigates animal bites and orders confinement of cats and dogs that have bitten or scratched someone. Wild animals who have bitten or scratched someone are laboratory tested for rabies.

Wildlife Assistance



Animal Control Officers respond primarily to complaints on companion animals. For assistance with injured or nuisance wildlife please contact Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife at 800-252-5378.



Cattle / Horse Assistance

Shelby County Animal Control responds to complaints of abuse or neglect of livestock animals. An officer will investigate all complaints and make recommendations to owners on humane treatment of animals.