



Shelter Paw's

**ANIMAL CONTROL
OFFICE & SHELTER**



Spring has Sprung

Seasonal Allergies in our Pets

When winter ends and spring is near, I think of chirping birds, sunny skies, and colorful flowers. Now that my dog has developed seasonal allergies, I also think of his reoccurring ear infections, constant scratching, and patchy fur. If you are noticing these or similar symptoms in your pet, primarily occurring during spring, summer, and fall months, he may have seasonal allergies as well.

Allergic Dermatitis

Like with humans, pollen seems to be the primary cause of seasonal allergy symptoms, yet it affects pets in a different way. Pollen, as well as ragweed and some grasses, can have an irritating effect on your pets skin (allergic dermatitis) causing him to scratch excessively, even to the point of fur loss! You may also notice pink, inflamed skin surrounding the pads of his paws and the base of his nails. Because allergic dermatitis can be miserable, try soothing your pet with frequent baths and foot soaks as well as keeping floors and bedding as clean as possible.

Ear Infections

In addition to skin irritation, environmental allergies can cause infections or the growth of yeast within their ears. If you notice that your pet is constantly scratching at his ears and shaking his head, gently look inside his ear to see if there is any brown or yellow yeast accompanied by a strong odor. Ignoring these symptoms can result in painful inner ear infections and costly veterinary bills.

Other Things to Consider

If your pet is sensitive to pollen and grasses, they may be sensitive to household cleaning agents as well. Use hypoallergenic cleaning agents when washing their bedding. Even trying a new limited ingredient dog food can help keep seasonal allergies from becoming a year-round problem. Look for dog foods free of grain, dairy, beef, and pork.

The symptoms mentioned above can also be from food intolerance or other health issues. It is very important that you contact your veterinarian with any questions or concerns when it comes to you pets wellbeing. Always obtain an accurate diagnosis of your pets illness through your trusted veterinarian before attempting any form of treatment!

Story by S. Putnam (Rolla Animal Shelter)

New faces at the Shelter In 2015, the Rolla Animal Shelter had the opportunity to take on some much needed extra shelter help. New to our Shelter is Stephanie P. Stephanie is volunteering on Saturday's at the Shelter. She is responsible for working the front desk. She does our animal adoptions, animal intakes, takes the phone calls and assists our many customers who enjoy visiting our shelter. Stephanie J. and Clifford I. both work at our facility as part of a paid work program. Both Clifford and Stephanie are responsible for our daily shelter cleaning. They do an outstanding job in keeping our kennels, cages and shelter looking great. Last but not least is our newest member to the shelter, Haley R. Haley is a Missouri S&T Student who is part of the student work program. Haley works with us on a part time basis and is also responsible for handling all aspects of animal intake, adoptions and customer assistance. These fine folks are all a huge asset to the shelter and the shelter's overall successful operation. A very warm welcome to all of our helpers. We couldn't do it without you.



The Rolla Animal Control Office and Shelter is one of the many divisions within the City of Rolla Police Department. The Animal Control Division is first and foremost charged with the safety of the public; the protection of injured, abused or neglected animals and the responsibility of enforcing all laws pertaining to animals, both domestic and wild.

We are committed to:

- (1) Humanely capture any animal running at large, which in some way may pose a threat to the safety, peace, health or welfare of the community.
- (2) Investigate any and all reports of animal abuse and neglect.
- (3) Feed, shelter and care for animals that are lost, abandoned or when owners relinquish ownership.
- (4) Provide animals the opportunity to be adopted into loving homes and be given the chance to live in a healthy and loving environment.
- (5) Humanely remove wildlife from homes and work areas and to relocate them to a better environment.
- (6) Enforcing City Animal Ordinances for the protection of human and animal life.
- (7) Educate the Citizens of Rolla about the responsibilities of animal ownership and the duties of their Animal Control Officers.

RESCUE GROUPS



People often ask what the Rolla Animal Shelter does with some of the dogs and cats that are unable to find loving homes. The Rolla Animal Shelter **STRIVES** to afford every animal a chance to be adopted, dependent on it's specific circumstances. While most are adopted to wonderful forever families, there are others which are actually adopted out to various rescue groups around the nation. These groups look at the pictures which are posted on the websites and in papers and other correspondences . The appropriate rescue group will contact the Rolla Animal Shelter and make arrangements to adopt and transport the animal to their location for placement in loving homes. If the animal has issues such as *minor* aggressiveness or has been un-socialized, the rescue will work with the animal and are usually successful in helping the animal overcome the problem. The Rolla Animal Shelter has several rescue groups available, not only for various breeds of cats and dogs but also for fowl and various reptiles which may be picked up by the Rolla Animal Control.



Tips on Pet-Safe Gardening Page 3



Spring Gardening has arrived and here are a few tips to keep the gardener and pets happy.

Raised Beds:

Protect new plantings from scampering paws and wagging tails. Dogs can be taught where they are permitted and where they are not.

You may also consider using some sort of (non-toxic, non-poison) "Pet-Away" to discourage you pet from getting into your raised bed or garden spot.

Digging pit:

Find a place out of the way and make a digging pit. Teach your dog that this place is Ok to dig.

Patrolling area:

Make a "Plant-free" area along your fence line or around the perimeter of your yard. Dogs instinctively love to cruise around boundaries and fence lines.

Barrier:

Construct a barrier or fence around plants of the nightshade family. This includes, eggplant, tomato and potato. Their foliage and stems contain dangerous alkaloid that can be fatal to a dog. Foxglove, deadly nightshade and larkspur have toxic effects on the heart and circulation. When dogs eat large amounts of onions, they may suffer red blood cell destruction. Rhubarb leaves contain oxalic acid. In large amounts, it may damage the kidneys.

Avoid cocoa beans mulches. Their chocolaty smell makes them pup catnip. But they contain theobromine, which is toxic for dogs.

Cross almond or walnut trees off your list for areas used by dogs; tannin is a canine toxin, and almond and walnut hulls contain it. Moldy walnuts are also a problem. Avoid trees with toxic bark, such as cherry.

Do not use snail bait which contains metaldehyde, which is highly poisonous to dogs and cats. Copper barrier tape is a good alternative. Slugs and snails are deterred from crossing it by the tape's tiny positive electric charge.

2015 Statistics Page A

The following information contains the monthly adoption rates plus the year end statistical breakdown of our monthly reports. The reports are from January through December 2015.

Adoption Rates

January —	96.30% adoption rate
February —	66.67% adoption rate
March —	100% adoption rate
April —	95.65% adoption rate
May —	100% adoption rate
June —	100% adoption rate
July —	94.74% adoption rate
August —	100% adoption rate
September —	100% adoption rate
October —	93.94% adoption rate
November —	100% adoption rate
December—	100% adoption rate
Ending Annual Average: 95.60% (2015)	

2015 year end breakdown.

Total animals received (all areas):	739
Total animals adopted:	288
Total animal claimed:	208
Euthanized (Ill/Injured):	35
Euthanized (Dangerous/Aggressive):	68
Euthanized (Space Availability):	11
Deceased on Arrival:	47
Transferred to Rescue:	40
Relocated (Wildlife):	69
Other:	5

Misc

PR Programs:	15
Calls for Service:	2,474
Written Warnings:	8
Citations:	24

Dear Animal Control Officer

Do you have an animal related question for the ACO's or a question about an ordinance or animal law. Please send a brief E-Mail to jredshaw@rollacity.org or kmccue@rollacity.org or rtaylor@rollacity.org and we will do our best to answer your question in the next issue of "Shelter Paw's".

Gerald asks :

Dear ACO,

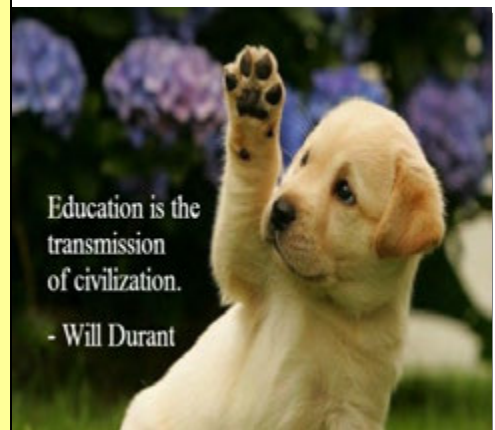
I have a neighbor who has a dog. This dog is very aggressive and usually gets out of his yard once or twice a week. The dog will chase me when I am walking my small dog (on a leash). The dog will bark and growl and has even bitten me.

What can I do about this?...

Gerald :

There is actually a couple of things that can be done. First, Animal Control could speak to the dog owner and let him/her know about the problem and be given the opportunity to fix it. Secondly, the City of Rolla has a very good "Dangerous Animal" Ordinance. The simple fact that the dog chases citizens on public streets while off the owners property can be justifiable cause to initiate a "Dangerous Animal case against the owner. All definitions and procedures for this is clearly outlined in City of Rolla Ordinance Section 5-79 (a) thru (f). 5-80 (a) thru (f) and 5-81 and 5-82.

THOUGHT
of the Month



Education is the
transmission
of civilization.

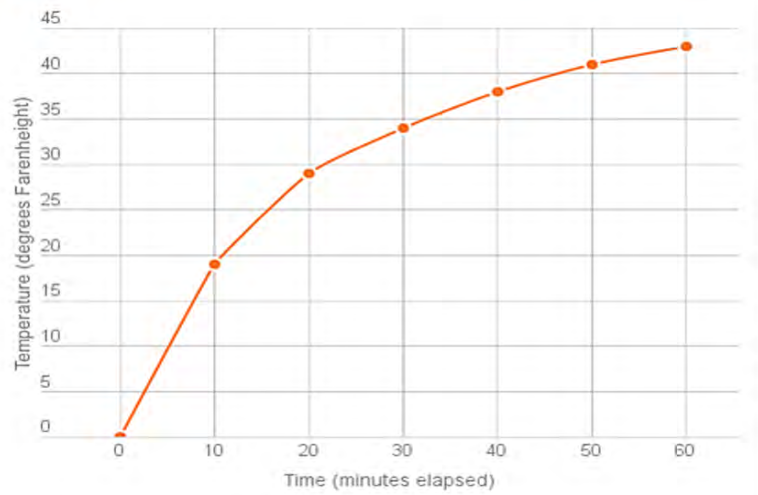
- Will Durant

Hot Cars!!!!

As the days get longer, we can't stress enough the importance of keeping your pets cool and safe. We receive numerous calls about dogs left in cars, so we want to take the time to help you understand how even five minutes in an unattended vehicle can be fatal to your dog. Depicted below is a graph, made by AccuWeather, showing that a mere 10 minutes in a car can result in a nearly 20 degree increase in temperature. That means a cool 65 degree day can feel like an 85 degree nightmare to your furry pal.



How quickly the temperatures inside of a car can rise while sitting in the sun



And keep in mind that dogs don't cool down the same as you and I. It is a common misconception that dogs don't sweat; they do have sweat glands, but only along the pads of their paws. In order to keep cool in hot weather, dogs pant! They inhale through their nose and exhale through their mouth, releasing internal heat while allowing cooler air to enter their lungs. No matter how far down the window is, the heat in a sitting car can remain stagnant. This makes the panting process quite challenging, which increases stress and ultimately leads to an even greater increase in body temperature.

A dog's tongue also plays a huge role in thermal regulation. Filled with a rich supply of blood vessels, the inside of a dog's tongue helps direct the cooled blood back into the body; this is because the moisture on their tongue can quickly release heat through evaporation. Thus, providing cool drinking water is extremely important when trying to cool down a heated pup.

Pets are family members, so treat them as such. The bottom line is that keeping your dog in an unattended car for as little as 10 minutes can result in heatstroke, even if the car is parked in the shade. If you happen by an unattended car with a panting dog inside, please contact the local Animal Control or Police Department. Take note of the temperature outside, time you noticed the dog, and details of the vehicle. Once the authorities have been notified, inform the store manager or someone who can help you inform the owner of the vehicle that their pet is in danger.

City Animal Ordinance of the Month

Rolla Animal Control & Shelter
1915 Sharp Road
Rolla, Missouri 65401
Phone: 573-364-6995
Fax: 573-364-9326

www.rollacity.org/shelter
e-mail:
shelter@rollacity.org
or
jredshaw@rolla.org
rtaylor@rollacity.org
kmccue@rollacity.org

Find us on Facebook under
Rolla Animal Shelter

ADOPTION HOURS
MON - SAT. 12 - 4 pm

**CLOSED SUNDAYS
AND ALL HOLIDAYS**

Sec. 5-2. Domestic animals or fowl running at large.

It shall be unlawful for any person possessing, owning or otherwise having under his custody or control any domestic or fowl of any kind to permit the same to run at large in or upon any of the streets and public places or upon the land of any person in the city or tether the same in such a way that such animals or fowl may go across or upon any of such places. (Ord. 2203, 2; Ord. 3264, 2)

Sec. 5-3 Impounding animals and fowl.

Any domestic animals or fowl found running at large or tied, staked, or pastured in, on or along any street, alley railroad right of way, unenclosed land or public place in the city shall forthwith be taken up by the city and impounded in some secure place to be provided by the city. (Ord. 2203, 2; Ord. 3264, 2)

Love your Pets
and have them
Spayed or Neutered.
Unwanted litters become
everyone's problem.



Come and see us, we're easy to find!

