

HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE PIKES PEAK REGION/ANIMAL LAW ENFORCEMENT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

COMPLAINTS

HOW DO I REPORT A DOG LEFT IN A HOT CAR?

Call our Animal Law Enforcement team to report a pet in a hot car. A dog can only withstand an increased body temperature for a short time before suffering a fever, heat exhaustion, irreparable brain damage – or even death.

HOW DO I REPORT A DOG BEING LEFT OUT IN THE COLD?

If you are concerned about the well-being of a pet, please call our Animal Law Enforcement team. It is not illegal for people to keep their pets outside, but food, fresh water, and adequate shelter must be available. Adequate shelter is a structure with three sides, a roof, and a floor that will retain body heat. The shelter must protect the pet from the elements and be size-appropriate.

HOW DO I REPORT ANIMAL NEGLECT OR CRUELTY?

Call our Animal Law Enforcement team if you suspect an animal is suffering or if you suspect it has been abandoned. Please do not email us as it may delay our response.

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT A NEIGHBOR'S BARKING DOG OR OTHER NOISY PET?

Call our Animal Law Enforcement team. If no complaints have previously been made, Animal Law Enforcement can send a letter advising the pet owner of the noise complaint or an officer can be dispatched to issue a written warning. For a written warning to be issued, the law requires an Animal Law Enforcement officer to identify the witness to the pet owner. The law also requires the witness to be within 500 feet. Once a written warning has been issued, additional complaints must be in the form of a signed complaint. The signed complaint is a penalty assessment or summons to court and requires corroborating evidence.

HOW DO I FILE A COMPLAINT?

Call our Animal Law Enforcement team. When necessary, an officer will be dispatched to investigate. Response time may vary depending on our current emergency call volume.

IS THERE A TIME WHEN MY DOG IS ALLOWED TO BE BARKING?

Any unprovoked and persistent barking during any time of the day or night that disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood is considered unlawful.

LOOSE PETS

MY NEIGHBOR'S DOG IS ALWAYS LOOSE. WHAT CAN I DO?

Call our Animal Law Enforcement team if you see a dog currently at large. Response time may vary depending on our current emergency call volume. If the dog is not currently at large and the pet owner's location is known, the witness can request a warning letter be sent. The witness may also sign a complaint against the pet owner and a penalty assessment or summons to court will be issued. Providing evidence, such as video, produces a stronger case.

WILL YOU PICK UP A STRAY DOG IF I CATCH IT?

Animal Law Enforcement may be able to pick up stray dogs for transport to the shelter. Please know depending on emergency call volume, pickup may be delayed. If it's safe to do so, you can help by bringing a stray pet to our shelter.

PETS – WHAT'S LEGAL

ARE PIT BULLS LEGAL?

There are no breed bans in Colorado Springs.

ARE CHICKENS LEGAL?

Ten hens are allowed, but roosters are prohibited.

HOW MANY DOGS OR CATS CAN I HAVE?

The city of Colorado Springs allows up to four dogs and four cats. Animal Law Enforcement can only enforce the legal number of animals allowed by law. They cannot enforce HOA restrictions on the number of animals allowed in a certain neighborhood.

WHAT OTHER TYPE OF PETS CAN I OWN?

Contact our Animal Law Enforcement team for information on exotic pets, goats, and pot belly pigs. They can explain the requirements for owning these animals and the permits required.

LICENSING

DOES MY PET NEED TO BE LICENSED?

Licensing is required for all dogs and cats over four months of age.

DO I HAVE TO LICENSE MY CAT EVEN IF IT NEVER GOES OUTDOORS?

Licensing is required by law on indoor and outdoor cats.

WHERE CAN I GET A LICENSE?

We make licensing easy! Get your license online, hsppr.docupet.com, or at our shelter.

BITE REPORTING

DO I HAVE TO REPORT A DOG OR CAT BITE?

Colorado law requires all bites to be reported to the health department. Bite reports can be filed online via the El Paso County Department of Public Health. Additionally, if you seek medical attention, your doctor will be required to report the bite.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I GET ATTACKED BY A DOG?

To report a dangerous/aggressive animal situation involving a domestic pet, call our Animal Law Enforcement team or call 911.

WHAT SHOULD I OR MY DOG DO IF BITTEN BY A WILD ANIMAL?

If you or your pet had an encounter with a wild animal, such as a bat or skunk, it must be reported to the El Paso County Department of Public Health and Environment. Rabies cases are on the rise in Colorado; the health department will instruct you regarding medical care for yourself and/or possible required quarantine procedures for your pet. HSPPR does not provide bite quarantine services.

MISCELLANIOUS INFORMATION

WHO DO I CALL IF I SEE A DECEASED ANIMAL ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD?

Deceased animals are picked up by the Colorado Springs City Street Department, (719) 385-5411.

WHO DO I CALL IF MY NEIGHBOR DOES NOT CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR PETS?

Colorado Springs Code Enforcement, (719) 444-7891, responds to complaints of excessive feces.

WHERE CAN I WALK MY DOG OFF LEASH?

Off leash dog parks and trails can be found via this website: <https://www.visitcos.com/things-to-do/outdoors/dog-friendly/fenced-and-off-leash-parks/>. Except for explicitly designated off-leash dog parks or trails, dogs *must always be kept on a leash*.

WHAT DO I DO IF THERE IS A SKUNK, BAT OR OTHER WILDLIFE ON MY PROPERTY?

First and foremost, please *do not* attempt to touch any wild animals.

HSPPR is not licensed to accept wildlife. We recommend contacting a local pest control company for removal or Colorado Parks and Wildlife, (719) 227-5200 if you have other questions.



**ANIMAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT**
CENTENNIAL • COLORADO SPRINGS • EL PASO COUNTY
FOUNTAIN • DOUGLAS COUNTY • PUEBLO

630 ABBOT LN.

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80905

(719) 302-8798



610 ABBOT LN

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80905 7

(719) 473-1741