Affidavit of Complaint

A citizen that has observed the violation of an Animal Control Law under Article 12 of the Anne Arundel County Code may file an affidavit of complaint. The form is available on the Animal Care & Control website or at the Animal Care & Control facility. The affidavit must be completed according to the instructions including, but not limited to, the full name of the animal owner, notarized and submitted to Animal Care & Control within one (1) year of the alleged violation. Please contact Animal Care & Control for more information.

Appeal Process

A citizen receiving a citation may elect one of the courses of action below:
♦ Pay the citation by the due date listed on the citation
♦ Appeal to the Animal Care & Control Commission
♦ Appeal to District Court

A citizen receiving an Administrative Order (Potentially Dangerous, Dangerous or Vicious) has 10 days from the date the Order was signed to appeal to the Animal Care & Control Commission.

Animal Care & Control Commission

The Animal Care & Control Commission consists of seven members— a representative from the Health Department, a representative from the Police Department, a veterinarian and four (4) appointed citizens of Anne Arundel County. The Commission members are all volunteers who meet the first Monday of each month to hear appeal cases for Administrative Orders and citations issued through the affidavit process.

Adoption Fees*

ADOPTION FEES INCLUDE:
Preliminary Exam • Spay/Neuter Surgery • Distemper Vaccination
Rabies Vaccination • Deworming • County License (if applicable)

DOGS: $17.00  ~  CATS: $14.00
ALL OTHER ANIMALS: FREE

Redemption Fees*

Impoundment Fee: $25.00
Board Fee: $5.00 per day
Rabies Vaccination: $20.00
License Fee: Up to $25.00
Potentially Dangerous/Dangerous Order License $100.00/$125.00
Additional Veterinary Care, if applicable Varies

*Fees are subject to change, please contact Animal Control to determine proper fees
Summary of Animal Care & Control Services

Provides humane traps for capturing domesticated animals outdoors as well as wildlife inside homes.

Provides shelter, and care, including medical care to all stray animals in Anne Arundel County.

Performs humane euthanasia by certified euthanasia technicians.

Provides Foster Care program for underage animals.

Provides the Adoptions Program to place stray, abandoned or unwanted animals in suitable new homes.

Provides Neuter/Spay Services for the animals adopted from the facility as well as rabies vaccinations and other vaccinations at a minimal cost to encourage adopting.

Encourages adoption of pets through reputable rescue groups and law enforcement agencies.

Provides Humane Education Program, including classroom education and tours of the facility.

Provides Foster Care program for under age animals.

Performs humane euthanasia by certified euthanasia technicians.

Provides shelter, and care, including medical care to all stray animals in Anne Arundel County.

Provides humane traps for capturing domesticated animals outdoors as well as wildlife inside homes.

Provides a program for the victims of Domestic Violence “Pet Safe Haven”.

Hours of Operation*

ADMINISTRATIVE & ANIMAL REDEMPTION
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10:00am—3:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am—6:00pm

ANIMAL VIEWING & ADOPTIONS
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00am—3:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am—6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am—2:30pm
CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

FIELD SERVICES
Monday— Friday 7:00am—11:00pm
Saturday 10:00am—6:00pm

EMERGENCY FIELD SERVICES 24 HOURS A DAY

For Emergency Services outside of regular business hours listed above, please call 410-222-8610
* Hours of Operation are subject to change, please visit our website for more information.

Summary of Animal Control Laws

See our website for all Animal Control Laws under Article 12 Section 4

Article 12 Section 4-402 Public Safety
An animal poses a threat to public safety if the animal:
- Inflicts severe injury to a person
- Bites a person
- Kills or inflicts injury to a domestic animal
- Attacks a person
- Chases or approaches a person in an attitude of attack
- While at large, chases or approaches a lawfully restrained animal in an attitude of attack
- Engages in encouraged dogfighting activity or shows evidence of having been engaged in encouraged dogfighting activity.

Article 12 Section 4-601 Rabies Vaccination
Anyone who owns or harbors a cat, dog or ferret four (4) months of age or older must have the animal vaccinated for rabies and be able to provide proof. In Maryland, the first rabies vaccination is good for one (1) year. Subsequent rabies vaccinations may be good for three (3) years.

Article 12 Section 4-702 Licensing
The owner of any dog or cat six (6) months of age or older must obtain an animal license from Animal Control within thirty (30) days of bringing the animal into Anne Arundel County. The license can only be obtained from Animal Care & Control. The tag received from the veterinarian is not an animal license.

Article 12 Section 4-801 Dogs Outdoors
For each dog confined outdoors an owner shall provide:
- Shade, separate from a shelter, natural or manmade
- A shelter that is at least 2” off the ground, with four enclosed walls one containing a doorway for the animal to enter, a roof and a level floor. The shelter must have bedding inside for the animal and no internal metal surfaces. December 1 – March 15 the entry way must be either covered or offset to act as a windbreak.
- Minimum enclosure sizes exist for dogs kept outside in an enclosure

Dogs CANNOT be tethered outside unattended

Article 12 Section 4-802
All animals must be provided water at all times in a non-tip bowl and food daily.

Article 12 Section 4-809 Severe weather emergencies and alerts
Failure to comply with §12-4-801 & §12-4-802(b) during a severe weather emergency declared by the County Executive is a Class D civil offense.

Article 12 Section 4-903 Public Nuisance
The owner of an animal may not permit the animal to be a public nuisance or to cause a public nuisance condition. Public Nuisance includes, but is not limited to chasing vehicles, molesting pedestrians or damaging the property of someone other than its owner.

Article 12 Section 4-904 Animal Disturbance Prohibited
Anyone who owns, keeps, or has possession of an animal shall not permit the animal to disturb the quiet of a person or neighborhood.

Article 12 Section 4-905 Animals Running at Large Prohibited
“At Large” means off the property of an animal’s owner and not leashed and not under the control of a responsible person. This includes all animals owned by a person, domestic (cats and dogs), livestock, and exotics.

Article 12 Section 4-909 Removal of Animal Excreta
The owner of any animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta (feces) deposited by his or her animal on public walks, recreation areas, or private property other than his own.

Penalty for Violation
Anyone violating sections of Article 12 may be subject to fines not less than $50.00 and up to $1,000.00.