

Seeking Medical Care

It is Maryland State Law for health care providers to contact Animal Care & Control when any patient presents with an animal bite or scratch, no matter how minor. Animal Care & Control will follow-up with the health care facility to determine the severity of the injuries. All patients will receive a follow-up call from Animal Care & Control to address any patient concerns, determine circumstances of the exposure, and to ensure the animal has undergone a 10-day observation period for rabies, if applicable. This is precautionary for most minor cases. The health department will send a letter to all patients, which is an additional precaution and is not indicative that there will be consequences for the animal.

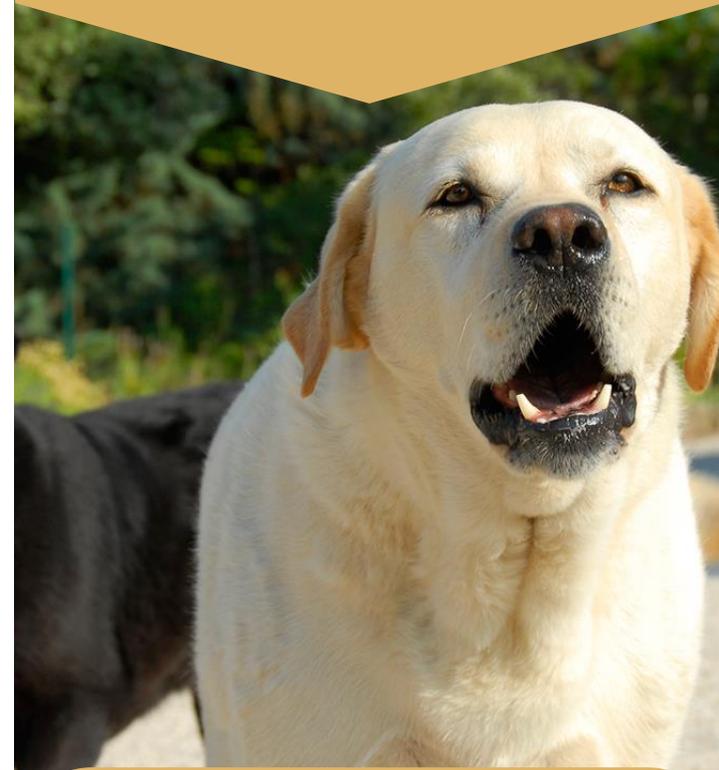
Animal Care & Control's utmost goal is to protect you and your animals.



Protect your family
Protect your pets
Protect your community
Be a responsible pet owner

411 Maxwell Frye Road
Millersville, MD 21108
410-222-8900
www.aacounty.org/pets
Facebook: @AACAnimalCareControl
Twitter: @AACAnimalCareCtrl

Consequences of Animal Misbehaviors



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Public Nuisance

Acts by an animal that interfere with the rights of citizens to enjoy life or property, or that unreasonably annoys humans, endangers the life or health of other animals or human beings, or offends human senses.

► **May Include:**

- Assault of pedestrians
- Chasing vehicles
- Damaging property of someone *other* than the owner
- Continual or repeated howling, barking, whining or other noise

Possible Consequences:

- Warning letter that declares the owner/animal is in violation
- Citations

Public Safety Threat

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 domesticated animal
- Attacks a person
- Chases or approaches a person or a fully restrained domesticated animal in an aggressive manner while at large
- Engages in or shows evidence of having been engaged in encourage dogfighting activity

Possible Consequences:

- Warning letter that declares the owner/animal is in violation
- Citations
- Administrative Order

Potentially Dangerous & Dangerous Animals

An animal may be designated by Animal Care & Control to be dangerous if the animal poses a threat to public safety, has been determined to be dangerous by another jurisdiction, or has engaged in documented behavior that is a public safety threat in another jurisdiction

Possible Consequences:

- Owner will be issued an order that contains the reasons for the Agency's determination and directs the owner to comply with conditions for maintaining the animal on the owner's property
 - Failure to comply with these conditions may result in temporary or permanent impoundment of the animal
- Citations

Possible Conditions:

- Manage the animal and its environment in a manner that will abate the animal's problem
- Spay or neuter the animal
- Implant the animal with a microchip
- Obtain an insurance policy providing for protection for bite victims in a minimum amount of \$300,000
- Remove the animal from the custody of an individual less than 21 years old
- For a rental property, obtain the written permission of the landlord to maintain the animal on the property
- Confine the animal to a structure of a size and type specified by Animal Care & Control
- Maintain the animal exclusively on the owner's property except for medical treatment or examination
- Muzzle and leash the animal
- Post on the premises where the animal is maintained a clearly visible warning sign that there is a dangerous animal on the property
- Submit the name of the animal, picture, sex, age, weight, primary breed, secondary breed, color and markings, whether spayed or neutered, the address or map where the animal is maintained, name of owner and address of the owner to be included on the Dangerous Animal Registry that is available to the public on the Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control website

Vicious Animals

An animal may be designated as vicious if:

- the animal kills or inflicts severe injury to a person or domesticated animal
- if the animal has been determined to be dangerous and engages in a second incident determined to be a threat to public safety by Animal Care & Control
- The animal has been determined to be vicious by another jurisdiction

No person may keep an animal designated as vicious by Animal Care & Control

Appeals

All owners of animals that have been deemed Dangerous, Potentially Dangerous, or have a Vicious Order have the right to appeal within a timely manner.

The first step is to appeal to the Animal Control Commission. This step is free and must be filed within 10 days. If the owner is unhappy with the recommendations of the Animal Control Commission or Chief of Police, they may appeal to the Board of Appeals for a \$250 fee within 30 days.

Animal Care & Control can cite and/or fine owners upon receipt of a properly completed affidavit of complaint from a citizen.