

FLOYD COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

ANIMAL INTAKE PROCEDURE

The Floyd County Animal Shelter is a canine only shelter. Canines will be accepted at any time, unless it is being surrendered by the rightful owner solely for the purpose of euthanasia. The Floyd County Animal Shelter sees this as an animal care situation. The rightful owner will be required to seek veterinary care at this time.

The Floyd County Animal Shelter does not accept cats as stray, owner surrender or feral. In the case of possible rabies exposure, bite cases or animal cruelty or abandonment, each case will be looked at individually. Bite cases and possible rabies will be held by a local veterinary office if the Health Department does not allow the owner to retain the animal at their home or in the case that no owner is found. Animal cruelty or animal abandonment cases will be held by a local veterinary office or a foster care provider throughout court procedures as defined in Virginia code section **§ 3.2-6569 Seizure and impoundment of animals; notice and hearing; disposition of animal.**

An ID is required to drop of a stray, or surrender an animal to the shelter. Persons surrendering an animal must be at least 18 years of age.

If people ask if the shelter is 'Full' they can be informed whether or not the shelter is at capacity so they can determine if they still wish to leave the animal there or make other arrangements. We evaluate each animal individually and will make decisions regarding adoption, transfer, foster or euthanasia based on the animal and his or her ability to be safely re-homed.

Animal Control Intake

When animal control brings an animal in, a animal custody record shall be completed by the animal control officer. Any details on the animal or the situation it came from will be placed in the animal custody record.

Stray Animal Intake

Animals with any form of identification must be held for 11 days, animals with no identification must be held for 6 days. Forms of identification include but are not limited to: Collars, tags, licenses, bandanas, microchips, tattoos, sweaters, shoes, or ribbons.

When a citizen brings in a stray animal:

- Animal control officers must be sure to get the citizens name, address, and phone number. An animal custody record must be completed and a photo copy of the citizens ID will be placed in the animals file.

When someone brings in a stray and wants it back after the stray period:

- Explain the stray hold state law. Ask them to make this request in writing for the animal and inform them of the next steps. The written request will be placed in the animals file.

Owner Relinquished Intakes

When someone is bringing in their animal:

- The owner must read the rightful owner release statement and sign and date the intake paperwork. The owner's information and a copy of the owners ID must be placed in the animals file.
- Complete an animal custody record.

The rightful owner of an animal must be present and sign the rightful owner surrender release to surrender an animal to the animal shelter. No third party release will be accepted.

When a person who relinquished their animal calls wanting the animal back:

This is a situation that must be handled by the Animal Control Officer.

- Check to see if the animal is still here, and if so, the owner must follow the animal adoption process to adopt the animal.

Completing the Intake Process:

The animal custody record shall be completed.

When strays enter with collars, any ID, rabies tag, license information on the collar or the tags this will be noted on the animal custody record. Animal control officers will then attempt to locate the rightful owner with the information provided.

AGRICULTURAL ANIMALS

Occasionally agricultural animals are brought in by Animal Control. These animals will be housed separately from the dogs, as the presence of predators can be very stressful for farm animals. Finding foster care for these animals is very important and foster care providers must be willing to hold on to the animals for five days awaiting an owner, and then throughout animal control's abandonment procedures as outlined in Virginia code section **§ 3.2-6569 Seizure and impoundment of animals; notice and hearing; disposition of animal; disposition of proceeds upon sale.**

Livestock:

Livestock will be housed with a foster care provider until an owner can be located.

Livestock includes animals such as:

- Horses
- Cows
- Pigs
- Goats
- Sheep
- Llamas
- Alpacas
- Food Rabbits

Poultry:

Poultry will be placed with a foster care provider until the owner can be located.

Poultry includes animals such as:

- Chickens
- Ducks
- Turkeys
- Guinea Fowl
- Peafowl
- Quail
- Pheasants

EXOTIC ANIMALS / POCKET PETS

The Floyd County Animal Shelter may accept some exotics and pocket pets as owner surrenders and as strays when animal control finds them.

Stray exotics or pocket pets are considered companion animals and are subject to the same stray holding period as dogs of 6 days without identification and 11 days with identification.

When surrendered by the owner the animal **MUST** come with an appropriate cage or enclosure, as well as any special food or equipment required to properly care for the animal. **An owner surrendered exotic animal or pocket pet can be turned away if the Animal Shelter does not feel they can properly care for the animal due to lack of facilities or staff.**

Exotic pets include:

- Snakes
- Lizards
- Frogs/Toads
- Turtles
- Birds
- Fish

Pocket Pets include:

- Rats/Mice
- Gerbils/Hamsters
- Rabbits
- Ferrets
- Sugar Gliders
- Hedgehogs