

Huntsville Animal Services Press Release
2014

Here at Huntsville Animal Services, our first priority is the safety and welfare of our citizens and their pets. We do our best to extend the lifespans of all of our animals and place every homeless pet that comes into our facility into a loving and responsible home. Sometimes, these pets get loose, and we understand that accidents happen.

At our Triana Boulevard location, there is a special area designated to 'found' animals, where we keep them for an allotted period in the hopes that they will be reunited with their loving owners. We do charge a small 'impound fee' when your animal is taken to our shelter since caring for your pet requires food, water, manpower, and an operating facility.

The second time your pet is impounded the fee climbs higher since we want to discourage our citizens from letting their pets run loose, especially during this coyote season. It is supremely a safety issue.

After the third impoundment, we require sterilization of your animal if he or she is not fixed, since loose animals create more puppies and kittens. In Huntsville, we already have a swollen population of unwanted and stray cats and dogs. If there are more animals created, there is less space in our facility, and we are forced to euthanize out of necessity. It is an unfortunate reality of running an animal services department, but a reality that can be lessened if we all do our parts together in the community.

We also require all pets in the city of Huntsville to have some form of identification on them at all times. This greatly expedites the process of linking pets back with their families. We suggest a microchip, but a collar with a tag on it is also helpful (although these can sometimes be slipped or torn off). Any found animal that is lacking identity has their photograph taken and posted on one of our Internet outlets as swiftly as possible - this, again, is to hasten the recovery process.

Our goal is to reunite missing pets with their families, but we must put the safety and health of the animal first. If there is any sign that the animal is ill, has been injured, or is in any way being mistreated, we will exercise our right to keep the animal pending further investigation.

We hope that this addresses any recent concerns or issues that have surfaced. If you have any questions or comments, we encourage you to contact us here or via one of our other media outlets linked below.