

Montgomery County Animal Control Q & A-concerning stray animals, abuse

Procedures to follow if you come across a stray dog:

If you live in any city or village limits in Montgomery County (except Harvel or Wenonah), you **must** notify your village clerk, mayor or police department about the animal. They in turn will call Animal Control if they want us to pick up the dog. **DO NOT** bring the dog to us. We cannot intake it in that manner. *We have to follow protocols set up in our contracts.*

If you see a dog running at large:

Even if it is skinny, you must follow the same procedure. Picking up or setting a trap to catch an animal running at large must be ordered by the same officials. We cannot just come set a trap or come after an animal because someone calls us. If you live in the rural areas of the county, we do not need permission to pick up strays or trap animals running at large - just call us at 532-3334.

Cats running at large:

There are no county or state rules about cats running at large so if one wanders onto your property, unless it is injured or bites someone, we are not obligated to impound it. If you live within city limits, many of the county towns do have rules about cats wandering around. You would have to check with your city hall as these vary.

Witnessing dog/cat abuse:

If you personally witness dog/cat neglect or abuse, call us, *no matter where you live*. We do not need permission to investigate and, if need be, impound the animal for its own safety and well being. If someone tells you about suspected neglect or abuse, **the person who actually saw it must call us so we can get all the information we need to investigate and possibly prosecute**. We cannot investigate anonymous complaints of neglect/abuse or hearsay complaints. It has to come directly from the horse's mouth, so to speak.

Questions? Contact:

Montgomery County Animal Control

217-532-3334 office

217-259-6104 cell

217-532-3334 fax

montgomerycountyanimalcontrol@yahoo.com