



Maricopa County Animal Care and Control



Trailin' Tails Newsletter

License Your Dog



One of the many dogs that has passed through MCACC's doors looking for a forever home— he got one!

Did you know that you must have your dog licensed if you live in Maricopa County? The law requires that all dogs over the age of three months have a license and rabies vaccination. The law covers all of unincorporated Maricopa County, Maricopa County, the town of Queen Creek and all other municipalities within Maricopa County, with the exception of Fountain Hills and Native American reservations.



Besides it being a law, there are many good reasons to get your dog licensed and ensure it is always attached to his collar. If your dog gets lost, he gets a free ride home. MCACC will attempt to bring your dog home immediately. If lost, the first 24 hours at our center are free. Your licensed dog also gets a longer care period at MCACC centers. We will exhaust every option we have to contact you, as well as provide this information to Pets 911. If your dog bites someone, he may be eligible for home quarantine instead of quarantine in our facility or a veterinary hospital.

License fees support the return of over 6,500 pets to their homes and adoption of 20,000 homeless pets to new families every year.

Before you can license your dog, you must have proof of a rabies vaccination. MCACC offers rabies vaccinations as does your vet. You can get a dog license by coming into either of our locations or you can download an application online at www.pets.maricopa.gov and mail it to:

MCACC Licensing Division
P.O. Box 52887
Phoenix, AZ 85072

An application for a license must be made within 15 days of the vaccination. Residents new to Maricopa County and new dog owners must purchase a dog license within 30 days. The term of the license is based on the month and day of the most current rabies vaccination recorded at MCACC and is valid for one calendar year.

Annual dog licenses cost \$16 for sterile dogs and \$40 for unaltered dogs. (A sterilization certificate is required proof of altered status.) Late fees are \$2 a month for sterile dogs and \$4 a month for unaltered dogs. MCACC now offers a senior discount to people who are 65 or better. The senior citizen fee is \$6. However, there is a two pet maximum for this discount. Thank you for licensing your dog!

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Inaugural PetWalk is a Howling Success!

On Sunday, January 25th, an estimated 8,000 animal lovers gathered at Tempe Town Lake to participate in PetSmart Charities® first PetWalk.

The event, which drew nearly 40 animal-welfare agencies, is expected to raise an estimated \$350,000 to benefit homeless and unwanted companion animals throughout Arizona. Walkers were invited to raise funds for the animal agency of their choice. The Friends of Animal Care & Control (FACCS)



team brought in more than \$5,000 to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care & Control.

The Pet Walk was one of the Valley's largest pet-themed events and next year promises to be even bigger and better! If you'd like to be added to the FACCS Team mailing list and receive advance notice of next year's PetWalk,

email your name and information to FACCS Executive Director, Melissa Gable, at mgable@azfaccs.org.



Search the web with www.goodsearch.com and money from Yahoo advertisers will go to FACC's – Friends of Animal Care & Control without you spending a dime!



One of the many cats that have come through our doors needing a new home—he got one!

Animal First Aid Kit:

- First Aid Book
- Gauze Pads
- Bandages
- Cotton Tipped Applicators
- Muzzle
- Cold Pack
- Antiseptic Wipes
- Disposable Gloves

Bringing Home a New Puppy

Bringing home a new puppy is truly one of life's joys. Thoughtful preparations and a well-planned routine can make puppy's adjustment to his new home, and his growth into adulthood, much easier, both for him and his new family.



Making preparations before you bring your puppy home greatly reduces the stress on everyone. Go shopping ahead of time for all the things your puppy will need: food and water bowls, collar and leash, identification tag, bedding, grooming supplies, crate, gate, and odor neutralizer.

It is also important to establish who will have which responsibilities in caring for the pup. For example, who will take him to the designated bathroom area and when? Who will be in charge of feeding him three or four times a day? Who will take him to the veterinarian for vaccinations and routine health care?

Take the time to create a vocabulary list that everyone in the house will use with the puppy. If Mom says "down" when he gets on the couch, Dad says "down" when he wants him to lie down, and Junior says "sit down" when he expects the pup's rear to hit the floor, the result will be one confused dog! Consistency in commands and scheduling is very helpful in teaching the dog how to behave.

You'll need to puppy-proof the area where he will spend most of his time the first few months.

This includes: taping electrical cords to baseboards, storing household chemicals on high shelves, removing plants, rugs and breakables, and installing gates.

When you pick up your pup, remember to ask what, when, and how often he was fed. Replicate that schedule for the first few days to avoid gastric distress. If

you wish to switch to a different brand of dog food, do so over a period of a week by adding one part new brand to three parts of the old for several days, then switch to equal parts, and then to one part old to three parts new.

On the way home, puppy should ride in the back seat, in a crate or harness designed for dogs. Once home, take him to his toileting area immediately. Take care not to overwhelm him with the excited attention of too many people at once.

Remember, consistency is important. Establish and adhere to a schedule for feeding, toileting, napping and playing/exercising. From day one, your pup will need family time as well as brief periods of solitary confinement. Solitude may be new to puppy, so he may whine or bark. Don't let him out in response, or this will teach him to vocalize whenever he wants your attention. Instead, give him attention and praise for good behavior, such as chewing on one of his toys or resting quietly.

Enjoy your puppy and give him lots of love!

Kids Helping Animals Be Comfortable

MCACC would like to give a special thank you to Arcadia Kids, a local group of kids that focus on community service. Each month, a family chooses and organizes a community service event. They learn about leadership and the importance of giving back. Families get easy, year-round opportunities to volunteer together. In March, the Arcadia Kids choose MCACC. They had three dozen kids join in to collect blankets and towels for the animals. As the group pointed out, "Everybody likes to have soft, clean places to sleep -- that includes the dogs and cats in animal care facilities!" They also collected and then decorated bandanas for MCACC's dogs to wear.



Students Helping to Make Their Neighborhood Safe



MCACC would like to give a special thank you to the students of Pueblo del Sol Middle School. Their after-school program focuses on the teaching of Cesar Chavez. While learning about one of the principles, 'Respect for life and environment', the kids came in contact with MCACC.

Learning how to care for animals fell right in line with what they were learning. The students learned all about responsible pet ownership and the need

to keep dogs vaccinated and licensed.

Their next step was to help educate their community. So they made flyers about what they learned and posted them at school and in their neighborhood.

To round out their lesson, the students helped out at a MCACC Uno por Uno Rabies Vaccination Clinic. More than 200 community members showed up to get their dogs and cats vaccinated.



One of the many dogs MCACC has taken in needing forever homes.

Vet's Corner: Making a Case for Microchipping

I have always been amazed at the number of microchips that we find when we go to surgery with an animal- ok, make that lack of microchips. We find one, maybe two, a week. If you think about all the stray animals that are turned in (43,643 per year) that is not a lot. In the clinic, when we do find a chip, we do everything to get in touch with that owner as quickly as possible. It puts a smile on my face when the owner says "I'll be right down". We have even had a dog in 2007 whose owner lived in Texas and drove all night to come get the dog. Recently there was a dog that was missing for 7 years- it was stolen and its family had not given up hope.

The sad thing is most of our happy stories are about dogs. Folks think that because cats stay indoors they don't need a chip. It isn't until the repairman leaves the door open while he goes and gets tools from his truck and the cat is gone that they realize one is needed for the cat too. It may be weeks before that cat is brought into the shelter and many times nobody comes looking for it. Most owners think Fluffy will come home or they give up. A microchip will allow a cat to get home just as easily as a dog. They can be implanted in an awake animal- it is sort of like getting a vaccination. Shelters, because of volume, tend to offer microchips less expensively than veterinary clinics but calling around for pricing does not hurt. Some places include registration in the price of chip implantation, others do not.

If you are adopting from the shelter (which we hope you do), please consider that these are animals that may have previously ran from home. If so, they are more likely to attempt to run/escape again and that is a good reason to microchip when you adopt. It is easier to return them to you if they become separated with a microchip.

Spay and neuter your pets

Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC gets in over 55,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets! MCACC's the Big Fix Spay/Neuter Voucher Program offers a free spay or neuter surgery for your cat or dog. Please visit us on the web at www.pets.maricopa.gov for more information.



MCACC took in over 55,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!

Keeping Your Pets Safe in the Arizona Heat

Summer is coming, even though it seems as if it has already arrived. We know how warm we all get in the summer months. Now imagine if you were wearing a fur coat. Each summer Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) receives hundreds of calls about pets being left outside with no shade or water. Many of these animals lose their lives due to extreme temperatures. Here are some easy things you can do to help them feel more comfortable during the long days of summer.

Walk your dog in the early morning or evening hours. Pavement gets very hot during the day and can burn the pads on their paws. Also, your pet is much closer to the pavement than you are, so it's even warmer. If you and your pet are going out in the sun, put sunscreen on his sensitive areas (the tips of his ears, his nose).

Never leave your pet in the car, even if it's parked in the shade. Temperatures can get up to 150 degrees quickly. Watch out for coolant leaking from your car. It has a sweet smell and animals are attracted to it. It could kill them.

Ensure your pet has adequate shade (for the entire day) if left outside. Also be sure to have some water in a tip-proof container that is also in a shaded area. If your pet does show signs of heat exhaustion, cool him down slowly with a cool rag. Do not submerge him in water. Take him immediately to a veterinarian for follow up care.

Monitor your cat for hair balls and brush her if she seems to have excess hair. Get your dog groomed. Have your cat and dog checked and treated for fleas and ticks, which are especially problematic in the hot summer months.

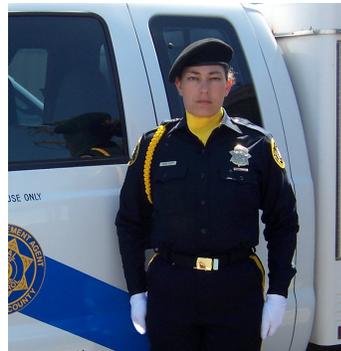
Take extra care of old or overweight animals in hot weather. Snub-nosed dogs (Bulldogs, Pekingese, Boston Terriers, Lhasa Apsos and Shih Tzus) and those with heart or lung disease should be kept indoors in air-conditioning as much as possible. These animals have a difficult time regulating their body temperature. Take care of your pets and you both will enjoy the summer!



Animal Control Officer Taking Time to Give to Her Country

MCACC is proud to announce that Officer Stephany Gallegos is leaving her position to support our country. Officer Gallegos is being deployed with the Army either in June with the 3666 Maintenance Company to Baghdad or the 855 Military Police Company in September to Tikrit. She will be gone for a year.

Officer Gallegos joined the Army National Guard in May of 2005. "I could do the National Guard and serve and still be able to be with my family and do the job I really love. I had already been working here (at MCACC) for about 4 years when I joined. In my opinion, it fit the whole concept by Dr. Silva of 'Serving with a Servant's Heart.' I have all my life done philanthropy. I have logged 100,000+ hours of community service through my sorority, 4H, wildlife rescue, horse rescue, high school groups, and my job. It was just fitting to do this as well." She has been deployed to Italy before for training. "I have mixed emotions surrounding my deployment.



I knew this was going to happen - it was just a matter of time. I had accepted it. But I am anxious about leaving my children behind. I have always been there for them. I am afraid of all the things that I will be missing out on in the year that I am going to be gone."

Officer Gallegos is ready for the challenges the upcoming year will bring. "I am excited to finally use all the training I have been given to help

others. I never would have thought that a 35 year old woman like me would be able to accomplish all the things I have accomplished. I am looking forward to putting that training to good use. I am looking forward to pushing that envelope and seeing just how much I can accomplish. I won't lie to you - I am nervous about the element of danger. I am still scared about what might happen to me. I know that I will be okay though since I have been trained well." We wish Officer Stephany Gallegos the best of luck and a safe return home!

Rabies Clinic

Specials: \$20

West and East Shelters

Sundays 12 —4 p.m.

Mondays 9—11 a.m.

Tuesdays 9—11 a.m.

Kittens and Puppies Are Coming- Foster Families Needed



Foster families save lives! Kittens and puppies need a safe, loving environment while waiting to be old enough to be spayed or neutered and then adopted into a new forever family. Foster families fulfill this need. Fosters provide a safe and caring environment. They also provide the socialization and positive experiences that will set these young ones up for success in their futures. Our wonderful fosters enable these poor, homeless kittens and puppies to have a bright future ahead of them!

Puppies and kittens are the animals that are most often in need of fostering. However, our fosters also provide for dogs and cats who are recovering from an illness or who need additional socialization. Foster families provide a second chance at happy lives!

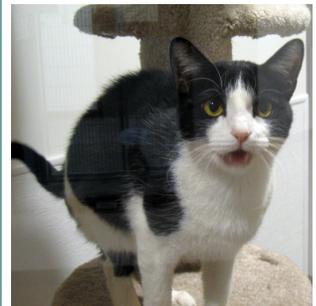
MCACC will provide food and supplies for all foster pets. You provide the love and nurturing. Fostering typically requires a 1 – 4 week time commitment. Please, be a hero and help us save hundreds of additional lives each year!

If you are interested, please call MCACC's Foster Coordinators:

West Shelter – 602-372-1158

East Shelter – 602-506-6279

If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : www.pets.maricopa.gov



MCACC took in over 12,000 cats last year. Please give one a good home!

Community Helping Out Homeless Cats

One community has decided to help work on the homeless cat population one cat at a time. The Towerpoint Resort in Mesa is being proactive about their feral cat population. When Judy Atkinson and her husband arrived, they were surprised to see the number of cats roaming around their community. After asking around, she found one woman feeding the cats and trying to get them spayed and neutered, one by one. Judy did some research on MCACC's web site and discovered Altered Tails.



spaying and neutering of the cats. Working with Altered Tails, they caught 5 cats and took them to a mobile spay and neuter clinic on the set date.

With the success of the first clinic, and another date set,

Judy created an information sheet about TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) and it is being handed out to the residents who voice concerns about the cats. There will also be a detailed letter going out to all residents explaining the process and answering any questions.

Judy went to the community's management and shared what she had learned. The management team agreed to commit some funds for the

MCACC congratulates this community on being proactive and attempting to deal with their cats in a humane manner!

Become a Volunteer

Believe it or not, MCACC still needs more dedicated volunteers. Help is needed to assist with adoptions and socializing animals. This is a rewarding and dynamic volunteer experience waiting for you. Whether you are interested in walking dogs, petting kittens, or assisting with adoptions there is a way you can help! Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at (602) 506-8133 or by email: sspinelle@mail.maricopa.gov



One of the lucky cats to find a new home through MCACC this year.

Paws, Claws and Jaws! Rough Kitten Play

Kittens need a lot of exercise and play to grow healthy. They learn through play— stalking, chasing, pouncing, biting and clawing. Predatory play is an integral part of their development. It is your responsibility to teach your kitten how to play appropriately with people. The first step is to provide a variety of appropriate toys for self play, as well as for social play. Rolling toys, toys that dangle, battery operated or spring-mounted toys, and scratching posts are all wonderful options. Even cardboard boxes or paper bags (never plastic bags) can provide kittens with hours of fun.



Avoid using your hands or feet as "toys" with your kitten, because it could turn painful, and teach bad habits. If your kitten tries to play rough with your hands or feet, substitute immediately with appropriate toys. You may need a stash of cat toys handy in all rooms. If this doesn't work, try walking out of the room, leaving the kitten alone for a few minutes. This will teach him that there will be no play when he is tearing up skin. Once the kitten has calmed down, give him a "do-over" with an appropriate toy or game.

Never use physical punishment with your kitten. First, you may cause real aggressive behaviors to occur, since one response to pain is defensive aggression. Second, hurting your kitten may cause him to fear or avoid you. Third, your attempt to correct the playful aggression may actually escalate it -your kitten may think the correction is all part of the fun and games.

If your kitten still plays aggressively with you, try interrupting the behavior with a startling noise, such as making a hissing sound, using a can of compressed air, or an air horn. If they aren't effective, try a squirt bottle filled with water and set on stream. Timing here is key - you must react during the behavior. This means that your noise maker or squirt bottle must be handy at all times.

Once you have stopped the inappropriate play, replace it with an approved means of playing. You should provide ample opportunities for play on your terms. Schedule play sessions that include running, jumping, pouncing, and chasing appropriate toys. Have fun with your kitten, and remember, much like with children, kittens need to learn how to play with people, even as they learn how not to play with people.



Help us control the pet overpopulation problem. Get you pet spayed or neutered!



Call or email us and we'll bring the Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus to your business or neighborhood! 602-249-6504; llong@mail.mariocpa.gov

Be sure to check out our web site every month to see what else is happening and where our Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus will be.

<http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/News/Calendar.aspx>

Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services. However, as a County department, MCACC is unable to solicit donations.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible for MCACC to reach its goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

- ◇ How to Volunteer
- ◇ How to Donate
- ◇ Information on: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Yes, I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!

- Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 8:40 a.m.
- Every 1st and 3rd Monday on Sonoran Living in Channel 15
- Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.
- Every Friday at 7:15 a.m. on KDKB
- Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5 FM

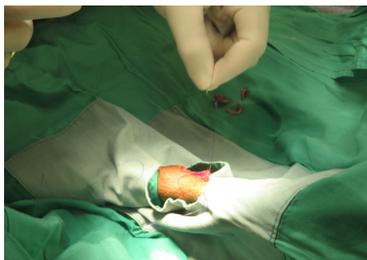
MCACC Vet Staff Helping More Animals

MCACC's veterinary team is not only spaying and neutering dogs and cats, but they are treating illness and fixing injuries. They have done surgeries as simple as closing a wound to inoculating an eye.



Dog with inoculated eye

With the addition of another full time veterinarian and many volunteer veterinarians and veterinary technicians, the staff has more time to focus on medical care. Since the move into the new facility with an isolation ward for sick or injured animals, the staff was already treating more illnesses.



Closing a leg wound



Puppy with deformed leg

Recently, a puppy came in with a congenital deformity on his front right leg as well as an umbilical hernia. The vet staff repaired the hernia & removed the front leg. This little guy will do quite well on three legs and as he is so young, should adjust quickly!

Kudos to the veterinary team at MCACC!



Puppy after surgery



Save a life and become forever loved— come find your new furry friend at one of our shelters.



Visit one our Animal Care Centers!

West Valley Care Center
2500 S. 27th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center
2630 W. 8th St.
Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

E-mail: ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov

We're on the web!

www.pets.maricopa.gov

MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets.

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: www.azfaccs.org

Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store



The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.

FACCs Thrift Shop
12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)
Phoenix, AZ 85022
602-923-6914
Store hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm
Donation Hours: Monday-Saturday 10 am - 3 pm
Sunday 11 am - 4 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- Clothing, purses, jewelry and shoes
- Dishes, glassware, utensils
- Furniture - indoor and outdoor
- Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please)
- Books
- Tools
- Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads)
- Kitchen and office appliances
- Computers, printers, software
- Artwork
- Cell phones, PDA's

For a large item (or large amount), call us to arrange a free pick up at (602) 997-7399.

FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

