
Animal Shelter Services

Police Captain Chad Williams

and

*Senior Animal Control Officer
Chris Lutgen*



Animal Control

When an Animal Control Officer responds to or locates a stray animal there are a couple of steps taken:

- Check for a license or name tag on the animal.
- Scan the animal for a microchip.
- Check the lost animal log to see if the animal was reported as lost.

If the animal has any of the above, every effort is made to immediately reunite the animal with its owner.

All of this is done BEFORE the animal is taken to the shelter.

Animal Control(cont.)

In the event that an owner is unable to be located, the animal is transported to the Western Arizona Humane Society where it is impounded per our current contract.

Upon arrival, the animal is “booked” into the shelter. Shelter staff then complete an intake of the animal that includes:

- Weight
- Vaccinations (DAPP / Bordetella, if needed)
- Visual exam to ensure that the animal is overall in a healthy state

Animal Hold Times

- Stray Holds
 - Non-tagged Animals
 - Tagged Animals

These established hold times allow an animal to be reunited with its owner prior to becoming property of WAHS.

- Other types of holds
 - Bite Quarantines
 - Animal Cruelty Seizures
 - Vicious Animal Seizures

The Importance of Animal Shelters

Animal shelters play a vital role in our communities.

- Work to reunite pets with their owners.
- Shelter those in need and find new homes for animals that are lost.
- For those animals that, for our own security, shouldn't be roaming our streets.

Why do we need a shelter?

The absence of an animal shelter in a community can put a real strain on municipal resources. That's how important animal shelters have become. Thousands of animals could be freely roaming city neighborhoods and the impact on public safety and health could be devastating. Luckily many cities have animal shelters that take on this burden for both the safety of animals and the public.

There are several reasons just how vital they have become to the well being of our communities. Since the first animal shelter opened in Philadelphia in 1869, animal shelters have spread throughout the country and have helped save countless animals over the last 150 years.

Questions?

