

## **2.403 ANIMAL COMPLAINTS & BITES**

### **2.403.02 Animal Complaints – Generally**

- A. Officers will respond to animal complaints when public safety is endangered. As necessary and appropriate, officers will:
1. Ensure Communications is aware of the type and number of animals involved and other appropriate information;
  2. Attempt to locate the animals and their owners;
  3. Attempt to determine from animal owners or custodians their wishes with respect to the disposition of their sick or injured animals;
  4. Obtain thorough descriptions of the animals if they cannot be located;
  5. Take reasonable and prudent efforts to confine or capture the animals, or in the interest of public safety, humanely destroy the animals without endangering themselves or others;
  6. Keep non-essential persons out of the vicinity of the animals;
  7. Notify Work Control to request the university's contracted pest management company when it is necessary to trap wild or feral domestic animals on a non-emergency basis;
  8. Request Baltimore County Animal Control to assist at any time with animals who pose immediate threats;
  9. Remain with destroyed or confined vicious, dangerous, sick or injured animals until appropriate responding authorities arrive; and
  10. Complete departmental reports.
- B. Additionally, Baltimore County Animal Control:
1. Maintains animal enclosures at Baltimore County Police Precinct 7 – Cockeysville and Precinct 8 – Parkville where animals may be taken at any time pending pick-up by Animal Control; and
  2. Will respond at any time to pick up confined animals so long as they were not confined by the university's contracted pest management company.

### **2.403.04 Animal Bites, Etc.**

- A. When persons report they have received bites, scratches, or exposure to saliva through open wounds or mucous membranes from warm-blooded animals, even when the victims or their families own the animals, officers will:
1. Complete **Animal Bite Reports (UPO.072.D)**;
  2. Give victims and animal owners or custodians copies of **Animal Bite Instructions (UPO.073.D)**;
  3. Impound animals that bite or scratch persons if there is evidence that the owners or custodians will not or cannot comply with the law or animal bite instructions or if the animals' health or behavior is suspect;
  4. Impound captured wild or domestic stray animals that have bitten or scratched someone;
  5. Contact Animal Control as necessary;
  6. Ensure completed departmental and Animal Bite Reports are faxed to the Baltimore County Health Department within 24 hours after incidents are reported to the police; and
  7. Complete departmental reports.
- B. See also Baltimore County Code, Article 12.

### **2.403.06 Destroying Animals**

- A. **2.815 Use of Firearms** establishes criteria and procedures for destroying animals.
- B. In order to facilitate any needed testing for rabies, officers destroying possibly rabid animals or animals who are sick, vicious, or dangerous will attempt to do so without shooting the animals in their heads.

#### **2.403.08 Dead Animal Notifications**

- A. In most cases, when animal carcasses need to be moved, ensure notifications are made to:
  - 1. Work Control when the carcasses are on university grounds and roadways;
  - 2. Baltimore County Animal Control when carcasses are on non-university grounds or county maintained roads; or
  - 3. Maryland Highway Administration for carcasses on MD routes, such as York Rd, MD Rt. 45.
- B. Consistent with **Natural Resources (NR) § 10-415(f)**, drivers who accidentally strike and kill deer on roadways, regardless if hunting season is open or not, may have the deer if they can produce visible evidence of the collision with the deer.
  - 1. Natural Resources deer tags must be completed for all road kill deer, regardless if the striking driver wants the carcass.
  - 2. Request the Baltimore County Police respond with deer tags or the MSP if the county police cannot respond with deer tags, when deer are struck and killed by motor vehicles.