

# Animal Protection FAQ

**What are Animal Protection's hours? Is there someone working evenings and weekends?**

-Animal Protection's (AP) office hours are from Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4pm. We have AP officers on call on evenings and weekends.

**I want to get my dog/cat fixed; do you offer a low-cost option?**

-Yes, we offer a low-cost Spay/Neuter Program in collaboration with a veterinary clinic in Kirkland.

**How old do dogs/cats need to be to get fixed (spay/neuter)?**

- Six (6) months of age is typically the age a veterinarian will tell you. With our Spay/Neuter program, dogs and cats can be sterilized as early as eight weeks of age or 2lbs in weight, whichever comes first.

**Does Animal Protection have a veterinarian on staff/at the office?**

-Unfortunately, we do not have a veterinarian on staff at our office. We do however have our vaccine clinics which are held five times a year. At our vaccine clinics, a vet is present at our office to administer vaccines and provide preventatives for fleas, ticks, and heartworm. We also work closely with the vets who provide us with our low-cost Spay/Neuter program.

**I am frustrated with loose/nuisance animals in my yard, what can I do?**

-Speak to the owner of the animal, if known (dog/cat). Call Animal Protection, and we will try to resolve the issue. No harmful method against the animal can be used under any circumstances to keep them off property. It is a criminal offence.

**I have a friendly dog; can it be allowed to roam freely?**

-No. All dogs need to be tied, in a fenced in yard, or indoors. While out in public, on a leash. Community members have the right to move freely without being bothered or intimidated by loose animals.

**When an animal is picked up by Animal Protection, how long does AP keep them?**

-Our stray hold period is three days. An owner of an animal has three days to come in and reclaim. After the stray hold is up, the animal will be networked to find an appropriate placement with a rescue/SPCA.

**Am I required to pick up after my dog (poop)?**

-Yes, you are required to pick up after your dog, whether on public property or private property belonging to another person.

### Does banning a breed of dog work in regards to dog bites and attacks?

-Dog bites and attacks can occur within every breed or breed cross. Any dog can bite, regardless of breed. Banning a breed or Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) is considered ineffective, expensive and unenforceable amongst experts in the animal field. Responsible ownership prevents dog bites.

### Does Animal Protection loan out live traps?

-We often get inquiries for traps in regards to stray/feral cats, wildlife such as raccoons and skunks hanging around an area or home. Yes, we do lend out traps, when available (we have a limited supply). Trapping wildlife should be used as a last resort; preventative measures are key to keeping wildlife away.

### What are preventative measures in regards to wildlife?

-Preventative measures or proactive steps to ensure to not run into issues with wildlife around your home/property. Properly storing your garbage (with a lid), not leaving food or pet food outside, cleaning your BBQ/grill can help eliminate the food source. In cases of sheds, low decks/porches-installing mesh underneath to ensure it doesn't become home (shelter) to wildlife. Food source and shelter are huge components to why an animal will choose to reside on your property. Bright lights and noise (i.e., radio) are also effective as wildlife want a quiet, dark place.

### Does Animal Protection do euthanizations?

-We do receive requests for euthanizations of pets; we refer owners to contact their local veterinary clinic. We do not perform euthanizations, that procedure is required to be done by a veterinarian.