

SEC. ____ - RUNNING AT LARGE

General

Any animal, except a community cat properly identified with a notched ear, that is freely roaming the community is considered running at large. This includes non-domestic animals such as horses, cows, chickens and hogs.

Response

1. Calls of aggressive dogs running at large are priority calls that must be responded to as quickly as possible.
2. Always activate your emergency lights when pursuing the animal.
3. Keep your focus open – see all around you including traffic, pedestrians and stationary objects.
4. When you stop, be sure to park in a safe manner.

Capture / Confine

The method for capturing and/or confining an animal running at large will vary greatly due to the circumstances. Below are the standard methods, but are not all inclusive.

1. Prior to handling any animal by hand, heavy duty protective gloves must be worn.
2. If the animal shows sign of aggression, request back-up.
3. Your catch pole must be within arm's reach at all times. If necessary, use in a defensive manner.
 - a. Once the animal is safely ensnared with the catch pole, carefully secure the animal in a cage.
 - b. Do not release the catch pole until the cage door is closed.
4. When using a net, keep the net secured to the ground until a secondary method is used to properly secure the animal.

Identify

All confined domestic animals are to be scanned for a microchip.

1. No microchip:

- a. Open a computer case and make sure to document the animal clearly including species, breed, sex (if known), and color. Name of the animal is NO ID – DOG / NO ID – CAT, etc.
 - b. Complete an impound slip, noting the impound # is the computer.
 - c. Impound the animal at the Humane Society, leaving a copy of the impound slip with the animal.
2. Microchip located:
- a. Check Comcate and PetData to see if the chip is registered with the City. If not, contact one of the online pet registries to try and locate the owner.
 - b. If an address / owner is identified, check the location / owner history in the computer to determine any previous events.
 - c. Attempt to return the animal to the owner by contacting the owner or making direct contact at the last known address.
 - d. Initiate the most appropriate enforcement and document it in the computer.
 - e. If unable to contact the owner, complete an impound slip, noting the impound # in the computer.
 - f. Impound the animal at the Humane Society, leaving a copy of the impound slip with the animal.

Non-domestic animals

1. Open a computer case and make sure to document the animal in general. Example – horse, goat, chicken. Unless the animal is special or out of the ordinary, there is no need to add the color. Name of the animal is NO ID – HORSE, NO ID – GOAT, etc.
2. Check computer to see if any registered exemptions are filed for the general location. If possible return to owner and initiate the proper enforcement action.