



**City of Sacramento  
Animal Care Services**

**STRAY ANIMALS RECEIVED**

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES POLICY STATEMENT**

We would like to thank you for the concern and effort you have given this animal. Now, we hope to reunite him/her with his/her rightful owner. Your responsible and caring actions are greatly appreciated by the City of Sacramento Animal Care Services. The following is information to advise you of our procedures regarding stray incoming animals.

It's important to know that the City of Sacramento Animal Care Services is an "open door" animal shelter. This means that we promise to accept into our care any animal who comes to us. Because of this, we receive over 11,000 domestic animals yearly. There are not enough homes for all of these animals. The City of Sacramento and our country as a whole is suffering a tragic pet overpopulation problem, with 10 million animals being euthanized annually, nationwide, because new homes aren't available. At Animal Care Service our goal is to find a loving family for every animal...but unfortunately there are simply more animals than there are people who want to adopt them.

By law we are required to hold all impounded stray animals at our shelter for a minimum 72 hour (3 day) holding period, in order to give their owners an opportunity to find them. This holding period does not include their day of arrival or Mondays, Tuesdays and holidays. At the end of the stray holding period, our staff will examine and evaluate him/her to decide whether he/she can be placed into our adoption program. Unfortunately, at this time, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to make him/her available for adoption. Much will depend on his/her general condition and the availability of space in our adoption cages/kennels. Even if he/she is made available for adoption, we cannot guarantee someone will choose to adopt him/her.

**Animals Who Are Not Placed Into Our Adoption Program:**

**The following is a list of condition under which an animal may not be placed for adoption:**

- **If they are under 8 weeks of age.**

- **If their advanced age is causing extreme medical or physical problems**
- **If they are in poor general health or physical condition**
- **If their temperament or behavior is such that they would not adapt well to a new home**
- **If they are showing extreme signs of stress due to being placed in a kennel environment**
- **If they show signs of a communicable disease that could effect other animals**
- **If there is no space available in the adoption kennels**

Depending on the specifics of the animal's condition and availability of space, some animals with these conditions may be placed in foster care, held for treatment, observation or until they are old enough to be made available for adoption.

**Animals Who Are Placed Into Our Adoption Program:**

At City of Sacramento Animal Care Services every effort is made to find loving homes for animals in our adoption program. Once an animal is placed into our adoption program, there is no set holding period. Animals may remain for a day, a week, a month or longer. Animals available for adoption will be euthanized if there is a decline in their health, temperament or physical condition. They may also be euthanized if our adoption areas become overcrowded and we need to make room for incoming animals. Any animal who must be euthanized (humanely put to death) will be administered a painless injection of sodium pentobarbital.

***If you wish to inquire about this animal, you may do so by calling the animal shelter at (916) 808-7387. Please save your receipt to assist us in providing you with information.***

***IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING THIS ANIMAL, we ask that you come to the shelter, before the stray period ends, to fill out an adoption application. At that time, we will discuss your application and the needs and condition of the animal.***

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DATE

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STAFF/OFFICER

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ANIMAL #