

Animal Control

Robin Evangelisto, Animal Control Officer

Robin Evangelisto has just completed her third year as our Animal Control Officer. Although her hours have changed slightly, Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm; you can still reach her at 413-684-0300. All non-emergency calls should be directed to 413-684-6111 ext. 28. However, please be advised that this extension is only checked during regular office hours.

This year we have had some changes to our office. Our Assistant Animal Control Officer Dale Gero resigned after serving 5 years in this position. We would like to thank him for his years of dedicated service and would like to wish him luck with all future endeavors.

We would like to welcome our new Assistant Animal Control Officer Shannon Earle of Dalton, chosen after several months of careful consideration. He will be covering the office when ACO Evangelisto is unavailable.

Reminder: Dog licensing is due on January 1, 2004. Late notices, which include a \$10 fine per dog and a reminder, will be mailed after April 1, 2004. Failure to License, which includes a \$25.00 fine plus the \$10.00 late fee per dog, will be mailed after June 15, 2004.

Reminder: It is a violation of the law to allow your animal(s) to defecate on public and or private property. This includes all school grounds, public parks, or public areas even when not in use for intended purposes. Fines for this offense can be up to \$300.00 and there are no warnings issued.

Due to certain increase in various diseases, i.e., rabies, canine distemper, West Nile Virus, etc., please be aware of the wildlife around your property and your animal(s). Protect your pets by vaccinating and keeping an open eye to their surroundings. When wildlife interacts with humans harmful things may happen. If a wild animal looks sick please contact this office or the Environmental Police at 800-632-8075. Feeding wildlife discourages them to search for their own food or teach their offspring to search. Predatory animals will also follow their prey for days at a time without making themselves visible. Unknowingly bacteria may form in some feeders that not only contaminates the feeder but the food inside. For these reasons, we ask that you not feed any wildlife. Although we look at these animals as weak and unable to survive a terrible winter, please remember that these animals have survived several winters without human intervention.