

Animal Control

The Animal Control division at Belle Plaine Police Department responds to animal complaints and issues. The Animal Control division mainly focuses on domestic animals, however, they are available for consultation if citizens have concerns with wild animals. Animal Control investigates all animal bites, animal neglect, abuse and abandonment cases and monitors the potentially dangerous dog list.

Animal Control can be reached by calling Minnesota Critter Getter (952-873-6611).

- Call 911 (911 is no longer used for emergency calls only)
- If calling outside of Scott County: (952) 445-1411
- Animal Control office/voicemail: (952) 873-6611

Dog License, Leash Law, Dog Ordinance

A dog license is required for any dog over six months old. Licenses may be purchased at the Belle Plaine Police Department from 7am. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Belle Plaine Limits: It is unlawful for any person, or other possessor of dogs and cats over six (6) months of age, to permit more than TWO (2) dogs and more than TWO (2) cats per household. Dogs must meet the license requirement of this ordinance. Upon written notice of this Section, the owner of the dogs or cats will be given THIRTY (30) days to compliance with this section.: except as provided for in Section 800.10 Fostering License.

A rabies certificate or receipt showing the expiration date for your dog's rabies vaccination is required. Please bring the certificate or receipt with you at the time you purchase your license. If you have any questions, please call (952) 873-6611.

INSERT HYPER LINK TO Animal Ordinance

Animal Control FAQs

What can I do about my neighbor's barking dog?

Animal Control will respond to reports of barking dogs. The general policy is to park within 100 feet of the residence, and monitor the barking for a period of approximately 10 minutes. If the dog barks continually, the Animal Control officer will attempt to contact someone at the residence. If no one is home, a "call tag" will be left asking them to call Animal Control. Animal Control works with the owners to ensure the barking dog does not become a problem in its neighborhood. If the contact with animal owners does not resolve the issue, the owner will be cited and have to appear before a judge to answer the charges.

What can I do about a dog running loose in my neighborhood?

The City of Belle Plaine has an ordinance that requires all dogs within the City to be leashed, or have an electronic collar, if they are not on their owner's property. Dogs also must be licensed by the City. If you have a dog in your neighborhood that is running loose, call 911 and Animal Control will be dispatched to the area to locate the animal. If the animal is picked up, attempts will be made to return it to its owner if the dog is licensed. If the owner cannot be located, or the dog is unlicensed, the dog will be impounded by Animal Control, and the owner will be required to license the dog and pay impound and boarding fees. In order to obtain the license, the owner is required to have proof of rabies vaccination.

You picked up my dog. How do I get it back?

Contact Animal Control at (952) 873-6611 to see if your dog is in custody. Animal Control will explain the procedure and any fees you will be required to pay.

My child was bitten by my neighbor's dog. Should I report the bite?

Animal Control needs to be notified of all dog bites immediately. If your child needs medical attention, please seek that first before calling Animal Control. We will collect information on both the victim of the bite and the dog, and we require the dog to be quarantined for 14 days. At the end of the 14-day period, Animal Control will check the dog to ensure it is healthy and follow-up with the dog bite victim. Any dog that has bitten someone more than once may be declared potentially dangerous. Depending on the severity of the bite, the dog may be declared potentially dangerous or dangerous after one incident. This is another reason why we require people to report dog bites.

Does Animal Control pick up stray cats?

In this Citis ordinance it requires cats to be leashed or licensed. However, if the cat is sick or injured (which will be determined by the responding officer), Animal Control will take the cat into custody. If you have continual problems with a cat in your neighborhood, call Animal Control at (952) 873-6611 and they may be able to give you advice on how to deal with the situation.

Does Animal Control pick up injured birds?

Animal Control is unable to assist with injured birds unless they are birds of prey (owls, hawks, eagles, etc.) or domestic birds (parrots, cockatiels, etc.). Birds of prey will be taken to the University of Minnesota Raptor Center, and we will attempt to find the owners of domestic birds. There has been concern in recent years about West Nile virus. We do not pick up birds to be tested for West Nile, since the state is aware that it is present in Scott County.

What should I do about a raccoon that continues to get into my garbage and bird feeders?

Animals that get into your garbage or bird feeder are a problem that occurs frequently. There are ways to secure garbage cans and remove bird feeders from temptation. We recommend that be your first course of action. If, however, there is a wild animal that creates some damage or threat, contact Animal Control at (952) 873-6611 for help with the situation.