

October 2015 Animal Services Report Austin Animal Center

Animal Center News

- The live release rate of animals was 96.9%.
- Animal Services personnel staffed emergency shelters for pets and their people at Dove Springs and at Dittmar Recreation Center as well as staffing the Emergency Operations Center during the flood emergencies in October.
- The Austin Animal Center is at capacity due to the flooding events.
- At the Mega-match-a-thon adoption event, 101 animals were adopted in just two days, many of them long-stay pets and seniors.
- Chief Hammond and Deputy Chief Auerbach met with leadership from Houston and El Paso, to share information and advise on how those communities can increase lifesaving.
- Dogs Out Loud presented two trainings for volunteers to help them safely work with fearful dogs.
- Deputy Auerbach presented her research on fostering dogs with behavioral challenges. She will present this work at the upcoming Society for Animal Welfare Administrators annual research symposium and conference.

Customer Service and Animal Care

- Customer service is fully staffed with 13 positions filled. These positions currently cover on and offsite adoptions, animal intake, lost and found and redemptions.
- Ashley Niels and Chris Buchanan were promoted to the Animal Care Specialist Lead positions. Their positions are vacant and will be advertised.
- Animal care staff worked overtime to assist with the evacuation and emergency housing of 45 dogs from Town Lake on October 23 and 24 and customer service staff assisted with sending all of these dogs to temporary, emergency foster homes.

Animal Protection

- Animal protection officers responded to 2,839 calls and wrote 172 citations.
- They performed 120 bite investigations and returned 55 dogs in the field.

Outreach and Education

- 13 owned pets and 105 community cats were spayed or neutered through the outreach program. This is an estimated number. Final numbers may be slightly higher.
- 419 animals were vaccinated at the free rabies clinic held at Richard Moya Park. 105 animals were spayed and neutered and 22 spay/neuter vouchers were distributed.

- The outreach team appeared on Telemundo and Univision.

Volunteer, Foster and Rescue Programs

- 381 volunteers worked 4,951 hours.
- 16 groups volunteered 273 hours.
- The volunteer, foster and rescue coordinators have relocated to what was formerly the behavior office and the old volunteer coordinator office is for volunteer and foster use.
- Six orientations for new volunteers were held, with a total of 118 people attending. Six additional orientations are scheduled through November and December.
- 48 new foster families were onboarded.
- There are currently 446 animals in 231 different foster homes.
- 10 kittens from the foster program were adopted from the PetSense cattery in October.
- 42 dogs went out as Emergency fosters due to severe weather on October 23 and 24. Of those, 23 were returned to the shelter, 14 are still in foster homes, two were adopted by friends of the foster families and three were adopted by the fosters themselves.
- 457 animals were transferred to 25 partner groups. Austin Pets Alive! took 305, Austin Humane Society took 56, and Paws Shelter, Centex SPCA, Texas Humane Heroes and Guinea Pig Rescue all took more than 10 animals.
- AAC and the House Rabbit Resource Network are drafting a memorandum of agreement, outlining the transfer relationship between AAC and HRRN. Notably, HRRN takes every single rabbit that comes in to AAC, providing spay and neuter surgeries and finding adoptive homes for rabbits. HRRN will be moving the six rabbits they've been housing here and will be working with AAC to design a display for the lobby to talk about the partnership between the two organizations and how people can adopt a rabbit.

Vet Services

- Vets performed 488 sterilization surgeries and 40 specialty surgeries.
- They performed 1,388 exams on shelter animals and ordered 1,408 treatments.
- They responded to 106 emergencies and accepted 69 animals from the emergency clinic.
- 189 animals were held for rabies observation.