

March 2021

ANIMAL SERVICES REPORT



Animal Services News

- The live outcome percentage for March was 97 percent.
- A total of 318 animals were adopted (219 dogs, 95 cats)
- A total of 106 dogs and cats were returned to their owners (RTOs and RTO-Adopt).
- A total of 957 animals were brought to the shelter (588 stray, 234 owner surrender, 16 abandoned, 38 public assist, 81 wildlife).
- Austin Animal Center moved to adoptions by appointment at the end of February and continued through March, after the City of Austin lifted COVID-19 Stage 5 restrictions.

Animal Protection

- Animal Protection Officers (APOs) returned 96 animals to their owners in the field during the month of March.
- Officers handed out 27 fencing assistance applications, implanted nine microchips and impounded 178 injured animals.
- Officers entered 283 rabies exposure reports and submitted 73 specimens for rabies testing. Two bats tested positive for rabies and two bats were decomposed, so a definitive result could not be achieved.
- 37 total coyote related activities
 - 25 sightings
 - 7 wild sick reports of mange
 - 3 incidents
 - 2 encounters
- Out of 37 coyote related activities, 30 fell within the reported behavior types (sighting, encounter, and incident).
- Encounters: Pets was a factor in this activity
 - 2 encounters involved residents being followed by a coyote while walking their dog
- Incidents: Pets were a factor in one of the activities
 - 1 incident involved a coyote with mange charging two APD Officers. The Officers shot at the coyote, but the coyote managed to get away unharmed



- 1 incident involved a coyote charging a resident and his dog
- 1 incident involved a coyote taking an off-leash, unattended cat in a neighborhood

Volunteer, Foster and Rescue Programs

- A total of 56 volunteers donated 1263 hours during March.
- Volunteers assisted with our most successful adoption event (“Kiss Me, I’m Adoptable”) during COVID restrictions which resulted in 24 adoptions in only two hours.
- More than 210 families provided foster care, and a total of 88 animals were adopted directly from foster care.
- There are 997 approved fosters in GivePulse, and 106 new foster applications were processed.
- There are currently 257 animals in foster homes.
- 180 animals were transferred to 29 AAC rescue partners:
 - 77 cats
 - 8 to Spay-Neuter-Return program with Austin Humane Society (AHS)
 - 67 to Austin Pets Alive! (APA!)
 - 2 to small partners
 - 98 dogs
 - 34 to APA!, approximately 9 of which are neonatal puppies
 - 10 to AHS
 - 39 to Small partners
 - 5 Other Species
 - 1 rabbit for housing
 - 1 rooster for housing
 - 1 Button Quail, non-native species
 - 1 horse for housing
 - 1 Costa Rican Common Basilisk, non-native species and USDA restricted
- Large partner engagement and pulls improved in March 2021 as compared to the past year. When compared to March 2020, pulls decreased by 15 percent for APA! and increased 38 percent for AHS.
- Small partner engagement shows a 49 percent decrease when compared to pulls in March 2020.



Veterinary Services

- Veterinarians addressed 118 emergency cases, performed four orthopedic surgeries and 20 other specialty surgeries including enucleations, amputations, mass removals, hernia repair, wound repairs and dentals. A total of 205 spay/neuter surgeries were performed, 484 vet exams and three cruelty exams.

Pet Resource Center

- PRC staff has handed out 2,760 basic necessity items including food, beds, leashes, etc.
- 189 found animal reports and 210 lost animal reports were filed.
- 211 new subscribers to the Lost and Found ATX text programs.
- The chatbot feature on the Austin Animal Center website had 1,691 conversations with community members who were looking for resources and information.
- Three dogs were returned to their owners through the AAC Stray of the Day Facebook post.

