

Artifacts from as far back as prehistoric times depict people and animals sharing their lives in harmony. Over the centuries, animals have played and continue to play an important role in our society, from protecting the families they reside with to herding and hunting. Many health care providers also recognize the benefits of pet therapy, such as animals trained to be the eyes and ears for others. Indeed, animals in our society have many roles. One of the most important is the comfort and psychological welfare they provide to humans with their loyal companionship.

We, as people, have a responsibility to animals. Animal care and control laws were first enacted in the mid-1800's to ensure that animals were treated humanely. As life became more complicated in the twentieth century, new laws were needed to enable animals and humans to continue to live compatibly. Many of these ordinances, such as the leash and licensing laws, protect not only the animals, but humans and their property as well.

Animal control means protecting pets and wild animals from the many dangers they may face both in the wild and in their domestic environments. Animal control also means protecting people and property from the dangers and nuisance of roaming, uncontrolled animals on the streets. Animal control is a way to help people and animals live together in harmony. Animal control means knowing how to handle animals and how to work with people too.

The Lathrop Animal Services Department provides animal control services to the City of Lathrop. Lathrop employs one full time Animal Services Manager, two full time Animal Services Officers and one full time Animal Services Assistant, with two fully equipped vehicles to patrol City streets. Our office is located in City Hall at 390 Towne Centre Dr. Licenses may be purchased at the Finance Department in City Hall. Any questions or concerns relating to animal care and control should be directed to the Animal Services Department. You may call us at 941-7240. Field Services are provided

Monday through Saturday; closed on Holidays. After hours emergency service is available by calling the Sheriff's office at 468-4400.

Animal Shelter Services

The City of Lathrop contracts with the City of Manteca for shelter services. The shelter is located at 208 E. Wetmore Ave., Manteca; phone: (209) 456-8270. Shelter hours are: Sunday-Monday, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Services available to Lathrop citizens at the shelter include, accepting stray animals and unwanted owned pets, humane euthanasia of sick, injured or unwanted animals, redemption of impounded pets, adoptions and lost and found.

Field Services

Uniformed, trained Animal Services Officers provide important law enforcement services and respond to various types of public requests for assistance, including:

- ◆ *Stray Animals*
- ◆ *Animal Welfare*
- ◆ *Vicious/Dangerous Animals*
- ◆ *Injured Animals*
- ◆ *Animal Cruelty*
- ◆ *Fighting Animals*
- ◆ *Dogs Harassing Livestock*
- ◆ *Potentially Rabid Animals*
- ◆ *Potential Threat from Dangerous Wild Animals*
- ◆ *Animals Unattended in Vehicles*
- ◆ *Dog Bites*
- ◆ *Wildlife Management*
- ◆ *Rabies Quarantine*
- ◆ *Dead Stray Animal Pick-Up*
- ◆ *Nuisance/Barking Animals*
- ◆ *Lost and Found Animals*
- ◆ *Public Education/Presentations*

Licenses

For animal and public health and safety, dogs four months of age or older are required to be vaccinated against rabies and licensed. Dog licenses provide a uniform system of identification, as well as a means of insuring that the animal has been vaccinated. Licensed dogs that are brought to the shelter are held for a longer period to allow owners additional time to claim their pets.

For your convenience, Lathrop Animal Services and the San Joaquin County Health Department provide an annual rabies vaccination clinic at the Community Center on 5th Street. Contact the Health Department for the annual schedule.

Licenses are not required for cats. However, identification tags on your cat's collar are its ticket home.

Dog license fees are as follows:

\$80.00	<i>Unaltered dog</i>
\$20.00	<i>Altered dog</i>

Penalties are \$30.00 in addition to the regular fee and are assessed after February 1. For more information about dog licensing, please call Lathrop Animal Services at 941-7240.

Redeeming Lost Pets

If the Animal Services Department has your lost pet at the Shelter, you will need to purchase a license and pay a redemption fee. The redemption fee includes an Impounded Animal fee of: \$40.00 first impound, \$80.00 second impound and \$150.00 third and subsequent impounds, plus a \$10.00 per day board fee (for dogs or cats). In addition to these fees, an Unaltered Impounded Animal fee is assessed: \$35.00 first impound, \$50.00 second impound and \$100.00 third and subsequent impounds. In the event that veterinary or other special care is needed during your pet's stay, you will also be required to pay for those expenses.

Lost and Found

If you've lost your animal, please, contact the Animal Services Department immediately for help and guidance. We will explain the necessary steps to increase your chances of finding your companion animal.

Responsible Pet Ownership

The City of Lathrop Animal Services Department encourages each citizen to become a responsible pet owner. This means loving your pet and providing it a safe environment.

Health Care

To insure a healthy animal, have it examined by your veterinarian at least once a year. Recommended vaccinations for dogs include D.H.L.P., Parvovirus and Rabies. Cats should have Feline Distemper, Respiratory Disease Complex, Leukemia and Rabies.

Food and Shelter

Provide good, clean shelter with readily accessible food and water. Select food appropriate for the size and age of your pet. Consult your veterinarian for any special needs.

License

Protect your dog with a current City of Lathrop dog license. Not only is it a law, it's good insurance in the event your dog is lost or injured.

Leash

Protect your dog from harm and respect your neighbor's rights by leashing your dog.

Spay/Neuter

California has a serious overpopulation problem that results in the euthanasia (humane destruction) of thousands of unwanted but otherwise healthy dogs and cats each month. Because of the extent of the pet overpopulation problem, helping to control population growth by having your animals spayed or neutered is an important part of responsible pet ownership. Remember, you are the only family your pet needs!

City of Lathrop

***Animal Services
Department***

Information and Services

***390 Towne Centre Dr.
Lathrop, CA 95330***

941-7240

www.ci.lathrop.ca.us

