



Washoe County Regional Animal Services Newsletter

April 2016

GETTING TO KNOW US

Robert Wooster,
Field Supervisor



Robert is an interesting individual. At the age of sixteen, he joined the Marin County, California Search and Rescue Team where he participated in over 100 searches.

He started as an Animal Control Officer (ACO) in Marin County in 2007. While working as an ACO he assisted in the largest seizure in California animal control history. They took in over 1800 rodents and reptiles from a distributor/breeder in Lake Elsinore, California. The owners were found guilty in over 100 felonies combined.

Robert has worked for Washoe County Animal Services since December 2013. He enjoys visiting Yosemite and has scaled Half Dome six times, and repelled down multiple 1000 foot cliffs. (scary)

Robert has a son, a daughter, a chocolate lab named Molly, an Iguana and a 35 year old box turtle that keep him hopping!

Next month we are highlighting:

Marsha Tucker, Caretaker

RESIST SPRINGING INTO ACTION

Spring has sprung, and with it, some of the most beautiful scenery here in Washoe County. Not only does spring bring the beauty of our terrain, but it also brings wildlife births including, birds, rabbits and other species.

Each year we remind citizens to not interfere with "Mother Nature". Although, as humans, we want to protect every baby bird and rabbit, the reality is; we can't.

Although there are rescue agencies for some birds of prey, there are no rescue agencies for other bird species such as sparrows, pigeons, jays and others. We recommend that if you find an injured bird, or a fledgling, it is best to not interfere. If you believe they are in danger of a predator, move them to a safer location. If you feel you must intervene, you can bring them into Animal Services.

The majority of birds that we receive are fledglings. Birds learn to fly from the nest and sometimes from the ground. Parent birds begin to teach their fledglings the importance of flying by remaining a short distance away from the nest during feeding. They also feed them on the ground. You can disturb the training process when you remove them from the area they are nesting in.

Wild rabbits are another species we see very often during spring and summer. Although extremely cute, wild rabbits, including baby



rabbits, can harbor diseases. One of the most common diseases carried by wild rabbits is tularemia,

also known as rabbit fever. Tularemia is a bacterial disease that can be transmitted to humans. It can be contracted through contact with blood or the tissue of infected animals.

The mother rabbit only visits baby rabbits to feed them a couple times a day. She does not stay with them, Please do not move the youngsters.

Rabbits may also carry myxomatosis, a type of pox that only affects rabbits. So, never put yourself, or your pets in danger by trying to rescue wildlife.



Remember that they are better off in their natural habitat

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Are Washoe County Animal Services and the Nevada Humane Society the same thing?

A: No, they are two separate entities. Animal Services is a Washoe County facility, governed by the County. The Nevada Humane Society is a private organization.

Q: Does Animal Services adopt out animals?

A: No, WCRAS partners with the Nevada Humane Society to facilitate the adoption process. We also partner with other adoption facilities and rescue groups.

Q: Does my dog need a dog license even though it never goes out of my house?

A: Yes. All dogs over the age of four months in congested areas of Washoe County are required by law to purchase a dog license. This is required every year as long as the dog resides in Washoe County.

UPCOMING VACCINATION EVENTS

Tuesday April 19: Senior Services Center 1155 E. 9th Street Reno 10:00 am—1:00 pm

Seniors, age 60 and over, will receive **FREE** vaccinations/license/microchips for their pet. Seniors must have identification.

Saturday May 7: Miguel Ribera Park 3925 Neil Rd Reno 10:00 am—2:00 pm

All vaccinations are \$10.00 **FREE** Microchips No kennel cough vaccinations offered

Tuesday May 17: Hidden Valley Picnic Pavilion Parkway Drive 10:00 am—1:00 pm

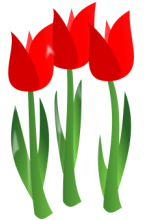
Seniors, age 60 and over, will receive **FREE** vaccinations/license/microchips for their pet

Saturday June 4: Paradise Park 2267 Oddie Blvd 10:00 am—2:00 pm

All vaccinations are \$10.00 **FREE** Microchips No kennel cough vaccinations offered

Tuesday June 21: Sparks Senior Center 97 Richards Way 10:00 am—1:00 pm

Seniors, age 60 and over, will receive **FREE** vaccinations/license/microchips for their pet. Seniors must have identification



Disaster Preparation For Your Pets

Emergency situations can happen any time and although you can't always be fully prepared for every emergency, you can prepare an emergency kit to help your pet through a disaster. Here are some suggested items to include:

- First Aid Kit (please check the following website):
www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/pet-safety
- Portable radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- Vaccination records

- Medications with dosage instructions
- Veterinarian information
- Pet carrier/cages
- Leashes/non-nylon halters/leads or ropes
- 5-day supply of food/water (1 gallon water per day per pet)
- Non-spill food/water bowls
- Manual can opener
- Cat litter and box with scoop
- Newspaper/paper towels

- Plastic bags
 - Duct tape
- Planning ahead can save your pet's life in an emergency.



Factoids

1. A garden caterpillar has 248 muscles in its head.
2. The fear of animals is called zoophobia.
3. Dogs have about 1,700 taste buds.
4. The average chicken lays about 260 eggs per year.
5. Alligators cannot move backwards.
6. Dogs can see better when the light is low.
7. 79% of pet owners sleep with their pets.
8. A chicken with red ear lobes will produce red eggs and a chicken with white ear lobes will produce white eggs.

