



Marcia Mayeda
Director

County of Los Angeles
Department of Animal Care and Control
Administrative Office
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<http://animalcare.lacounty.info>



February 24, 2010

Shelter Locations

Downey Shelter
11258 S. Garfield Ave.
Downey, CA 90242
(562) 940-6898

Carson Shelter
216 W. Victoria St.
Gardena, CA 90248
(310) 523-9566

Baldwin Park Shelter
4275 N. Elton St.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 962-3577

Lancaster Shelter
5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 940-4191

Castaic Shelter
31044 N. Charlie Cyn.
Road
Castaic, CA 91384
(661) 257-3191

Agoura Shelter
29525 Agoura Rd.
Agoura, CA 91301
(818) 991-0071

Dear Animal Facility Licensee:

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE,
TITLE 10 - ANIMALS**

The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (Department) will be proposing changes to the Los Angeles County Code, Title 10 - Animals to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors at their regularly scheduled Board meeting on March 16, 2010. The purpose of the proposed changes is to enhance animal well-being in the County of Los Angeles. A full copy of the proposed ordinance may be downloaded from the Department's website at <http://animalcare.lacounty.gov>.

What are the Proposed Changes?

The following is a summary of the significant proposed changes. You are encouraged to read the proposed ordinance in its entirety at the Department's website.

1. Owners of animals and animal facilities must maintain animals so that lack of grooming does not become injurious to the animals' health.
2. Tethering animals is limited to what is allowed pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 122335.
3. Animal enclosures such as cages must meet minimum space requirements.
4. Confined animals must be given daily exercise.
5. Language has been enhanced regarding the provision of adequate water, shelter, and other care.

Animal Facilities: An animal facility is defined as a lot, building, structure, enclosure, or premises for any animal related business or organization,

including, but not limited to, a non-profit humane organization animal facility, grooming shop, pet shop, boarding facility, and breeding facility.

1. Facilities must not violate applicable Federal laws (Federal laws relevant to animal facilities licensed by this Department are the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's regulations regarding commercial animal breeding operations).
2. Facilities must have smoke alarms and means of fire suppression such as fire extinguishers or sprinklers.
3. Facilities must have staff on duty the following minimum number of hours:
 - a. 15 to 50 animals = staffing 18 hours a day
 - b. Over 50 animals = staffing 24 hours a day
4. Facilities will be limited to a total of 50 dogs and/or cats UNLESS:
 - a. The animal facility has operated a licensed animal facility with 50 or fewer dogs and/or cats for at least one year and has not had any significant violations of Title 10 - Animals or Title 22 - Planning and Zoning during that time.
 - b. The facility states on its application the maximum number of dogs and/or cats that will be housed.
 - c. The facility demonstrates it can properly house and care for the stated number of animals.
 - d. The facility has an emergency evacuation plan approved by the Department.

Animal Breeding Facilities: A breeding facility means an animal facility engaged in the business of breeding dogs, cats, or other animals normally kept as pets for sale or exchange in return for consideration. Breeding facilities have more than three animals used for breeding purposes.

1. Obtain approval to operate (after an on-site inspection) from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health Veterinary Services Division.

2. Female dogs and cats may not be bred before reaching the age of one year, may not have more than one litter per year, and may not have more than five litters in their lifetime.
3. Animals must receive annual veterinary examinations by a California licensed veterinarian.
4. Animals must be properly socialized.
5. Offspring may not be removed from their mothers before the age of six weeks except for medical reasons ordered by a veterinarian.
6. Females must be housed separately from unneutered males except for breeding purposes.
7. Each pregnant female must be housed separately at least three days before giving birth and monitored at reasonable intervals.
8. Nursing mothers must be provided with a whelping or queening box and housed with their litters in their own enclosure.
9. All dogs and cats must be micro-chipped at the age of eight (8) weeks.
10. Facilities must keep the following records for all animals: from whom and the date acquired; date of birth for each litter; veterinary records; cause of death and means of disposal of deceased animals.

Breeding of animals normally kept as pets other than dogs and cats: The Department may impose reasonable conditions on a breeding license in the interest of the health and safety of the animals.

This is a summary of the important proposed changes to the Los Angeles County Code. **We encourage interested parties to download the complete proposed ordinance and review it in its entirety.**

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The Department will be hosting a question and answer meeting regarding these proposed changes on the following two dates and locations:

Tuesday, March 9, 2010
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Child Support Services
Phillip Browning Room
5500 S. Eastern Avenue, 1st Floor
Commerce, CA 90040

Wednesday, March 10, 2010
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
38300 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550

If you are unable to attend either of these two meetings, you may send your comments or questions related to the proposed ordinance change to: ACCLegal@animalcare.lacounty.gov.

THANK YOU

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL