



City of Columbus
**Animal Care Services
Center** 2730 Arnold St.

2012 Annual Report



Animal Care Services
2730 Arnold Street
Columbus, IN 47203

Adoption/Visiting Hours

- Monday-Friday- 10:00 AM -5:00 PM
- Saturday - 10:00 AM - Noon

812-376-2505

www.columbus.in.gov/animal-care-services/





Columbus Animal Care Services

Columbus Animal Care Services (ACS) is a division of the Columbus Police Department, under the direct supervision of Major Todd Harry. The department provides a wide range of animal care services for the citizens of Columbus.

Field Services are provided by four animal care officers (ACO) who provide coverage seven days a week on a rotating basis, as well as “on-call” services after normal working hours.

Field services include the following:

- Investigation of complaints of loose, neglected, abused, abandoned, or nuisance animals
- Recovery of stray animals
- Coordination of humane trapping program by citizens
- Recovery and relocation of wildlife (non-domesticated animals)
- Collection and disposal of dead animals

Sheltering Services are handled primarily by the kennel assistant (KA), with the support of the animal care officers and volunteers. Sheltering services include the following:

- Intake of and care for stray animals brought in by the animal care officers or the public and animals surrendered by their owners, all from within Columbus city limits
- Facilitation of animal adoptions by new owners
- Provision of “lost and found” services to reunite owners with animals

Animal Care Services also provides **out-reach educational programs** and benefits greatly from the efforts of its volunteers.

Animal Care Services Staff – December 2012

Kevin Konetzka – Manager

Mike Briner – ACO

Alyssia Burris – KA

Chris McDaniel – ACO

Travis Anderson – ACO





2012 Activities

For Field Services...

- Even though short-staffed for several months, officers responded to 750 after-hour calls, the most in the last 5 years.
- Officers decreased mileage on vehicles by more than 4,000 miles (to 55,700) from 2011, while still responding to the same number of service calls (2,900) and over 9,300 stops. Miles-per-stop in 2012 averaged 6.0 – a 5-year low.
- Travis Anderson was welcomed as a new animal care officer in July.

For Sheltering Services...

- For the first time, no dogs were euthanized due to lack of space in 2012 - a 100% save rate for adoptable dogs.
- The number of cats euthanized overall and the number of adoptable cats euthanized due to lack of space was the lowest to-date.
- 211 dogs were adopted in 2012, the highest number for dogs in the last 5 years.
- 276 dogs were returned to their owners.
- Fortunately, for owner surrenders, 2012 had the lowest number of surrenders of cats and the 2nd lowest number of surrenders of dogs to-date.

For Outreach / Special programs...

- The name “Columbus Animal Control” was changed to “Columbus Animal Care Services”, reflecting a shift to greater focus on animal care, adoption, and education.
- ACS sponsored an open house and adoption event in June celebrating the name change and attended with adoptable pets the “Meet a Cop” at City Hall in August.
- Additional open houses were facilitated by Columbus North student Emily McMillian at the Animal Care Center and at City Hall in February, March, and April.
- ACS initiated a pilot community outreach program, with Colleen Herrick as coordinator.
- ACS participated in the Festival of Lights Parade in December for the 2nd year in row.
- Adoption events were held at Petco and Bob Poynters thru C.A.R.E., with live remote assistance from QMIX 107.3.



2013 Goals

For Field Services...

- Implement and/or upgrade hardware and software in the mobile units to facilitate responding to and logging field reports
- Continue to reduce the miles-per-stop ratio (6.0 miles-per-stop in 2012)
- Develop more efficient management of wildlife issues, including the humane trapping program

For Sheltering Services...

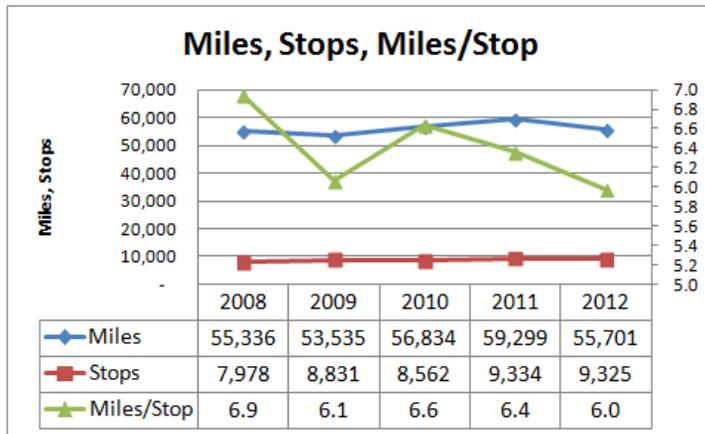
- Increase the number of adoptions of animals received at the Animal Care Center
- Continue in 2013 the goal of not euthanizing any adoptable dogs due to lack of space that was first achieved in 2012
- Continue efforts to lower the number of adoptable cats euthanized due to lack of space
- Begin participation in the CanINE Express Transport Project, an organization that humanely transports shelter dogs from south-central Indiana to shelters in New England, where there is a shortage of adoptable shelter animals
- Dampen the sound of barking in the kennel area by installing acoustic material
- Implement software at the Animal Care Center to facilitate tracking and improve reporting of animal intake, care, and disposition

For Outreach / Special programs...

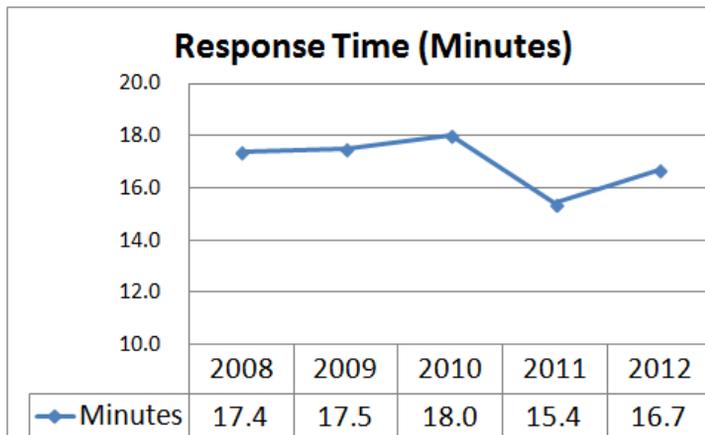
- Pursue regular use of social networking sites to communicate information about ACS activities
- Increase participation in adoption events
- Organize an open house welcoming all Bartholomew County animal service agencies to participate
- Provide funding to support spay-neuter activity in celebration of World Spay Day on February 26



Field Statistics



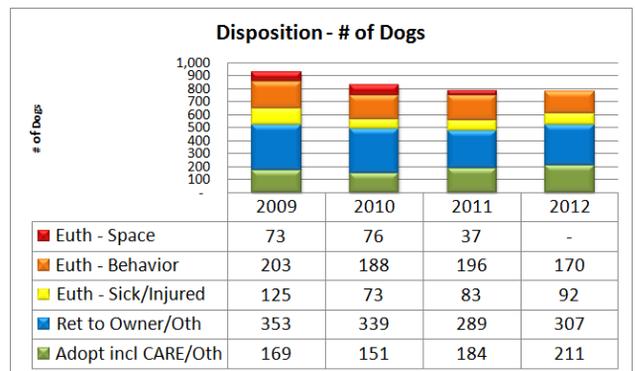
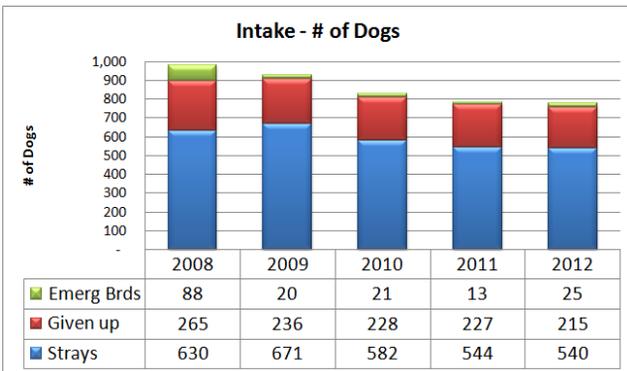
- Officers decreased mileage on vehicles by almost 4,000 miles from 2011, while still responding to the same number of service calls (2,900) and making over 9,300 stops.
- Miles-per-stop in 2012 averaged 6.0 (a 5-year low).
- Officers dealt with 60 bite cases in 2012; over the past five years, the number of cases has been in a range between 55 and 65 annually.



- Response time (in minutes) to service calls has been consistently at or below 18 minutes for the past 5 years; this is a combined average from both normal and after-hours responses.



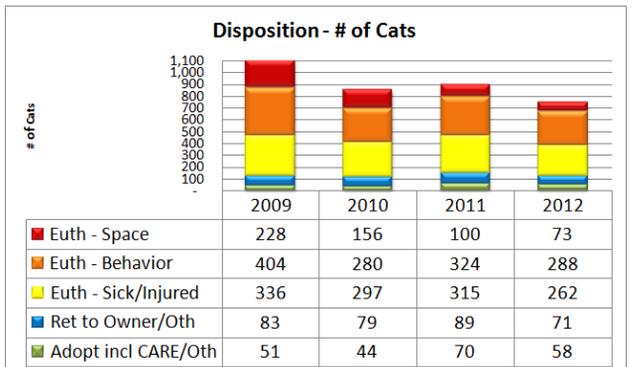
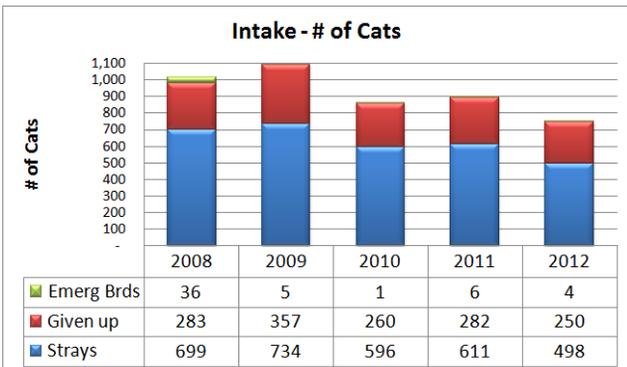
Animal Care Statistics



Euthanization by category not available before 2009

Dogs

- Intakes in 2012 due to Strays and those Given Up by owners reflects 5-year low
- No dogs were euthanized due to lack of space in 2012 for first time, and overall # euthanized was a 5-year low
- Adoptions in 2012 were a 5-year high, including those animals fostered by C.A.R.E. and other rescue groups



Euthanization by category not available before 2009

Cats

- Intakes in 2012 due to Strays and those Given Up by owners reflects 5-year low
- The number of cats euthanized in 2012 due to space (73) and overall was the lowest to-date; due to space, 2012 was a 27% decrease from 2011 and a 53% decrease from 2010

In 2012, ACS handled 2,260 live animals, including 590 of "wildlife" species, and 640 deceased animals



Community Partnerships

ACS and **Bartholomew County Animal Control** provide support for each other in a variety of ways.

The cooperation between ACS and the local veterinary community has aided in providing quality care for the pets housed at the Animal Care Center, healthy pets placed back into the community, and information and training of the staff. Thanks especially **Athens Animal Clinic**, **Eastside Veterinary Hospital**, and **Hope Veterinary Clinic** for their continued close relationship and support through lower cost services and donations.

ACS continued to partner with local **Community Animal Rescue Effort (C.A.R.E.)**; through their tireless volunteers, they continue to make a difference in the community. C.A.R.E. has been instrumental in the following:

- Facilitating adoption events and participation in other community events
- Fostering of pets from the Animal Care Center
- Organizing and preparing animals for participation in low cost spay neuter programs (below with Pets Alive)





Summary

2012 Activities

2013 Goals

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Partnerships

Community Partnerships – continued

UTOPIA Wildlife Rehabilitators Inc, directed by Kathy Hershey (below), has been invaluable to ACS. Her work in the community has had an effect on the numbers of wild animal calls we respond to and our ability to deal with wildlife issues properly.



Columbus Canine Rescue representative Connie Jackson, who also serves on the commission's dangerous animal committee, has been instrumental in placing a number of pets with various regional rescue groups. **Dog World** provided help in evaluating pet behavior and a "day out" for the dogs housed at the Animal Care Center.

Other local partnerships are with **Bartholomew County Youth Services, Centerstone, Bartholomew County Probation Department**, the local high schools' **C4 Health Careers** program (below), and the **Start Restart** program.

C4 students Mikayla, Bayleigh, and Morgan (right).





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Community Partnerships – continued

Bob Poynter auto dealership sponsored adoption events during 2012.

Local FM radio station **QMIX 107.3's** "Q Wake Up Crew" morning show with Brittany Gray and Chris Wooldridge provided free radio segments as another outlet to discuss adoptable Animal Care Center animals. Special thanks to Kathy Baumgart for helping coordinate programs and live remotes.

Comcast Cable provided free local television programming, On Demand's "Pet Adoptions", for ACS to introduce adoptable Animal Care Center animals.

The Republic includes weekly the full-page "Pet Page" promoting adoptable local animals and daily the "Found" animals recovered by ACS.

The free monthly local advertising magazine "**Deal Dogs**" included one print page of adoptable Animal Care Center animals at no cost to ACS.

The City has recently partnered with **Kuranda USA**, which manufactures chew-resistant cot-style pet beds, to provide animals at the Animal Care Center with comfortable resting places up off the concrete floor. Community members can visit the Kuranda website (kuranda.com/donate/8433) to donate a bed at a 28% discount.





Volunteers

In this type of work, we could not provide the services that we do without the support of individuals, businesses, and other civic organizations. ACS has been very fortunate to have such caring people and organizations in our community. Those efforts include the following:

- Over 900 hours volunteered by regular volunteers
- Over 500 hours volunteered by those in the local high schools' C4 Health Careers program.
- Over 500 hours volunteered by those serving thru community service programs

Christen Bosley & Lab



Monica Skinner & Stella



Chrissy Meador & Bigfoot

Chrissy is the longest-serving active volunteer!



For her, no job is too big or too small.



Volunteers - continued

Our Regulars - These young people come in every week to the Animal Care Center. They provide the much needed companionship for the pets as well as performing some of the less glamorous tasks that may be necessary. Our regulars include:

Jacob Acton	Brandon Estes	Taylor Hollman	Ciara Phares
Zoe Arbuckle	Ashley Evans	Mikayla Hounshell	Tony Pita
Joel Barrix	Dawnetta Everhart	Tricia Howard	Madisyn Prince
Lainey Bell	Brandon Fields	Brianna Hutson	James Quesenberry
Leanne Bergstrom	Gary Fields	Bernice Isacc	Raelyn Repp
Brandy Black	Patricia Fields	Trevor Jessup	Riley Repp
Christen Bosley	Mary Folger	Evert Jimenez	Devan Rhoades
Jill Bosserman	Joseph Fowler	Agne Jonaityte	Kayli Schaefer
Debbie Briner	Courtney Frost	Geoffry Tyler Jones	Brianna Scholar
Rylie Bringle	Catherine Gallant	Jon Keene	Edward Schonfeld
Beth Anne Brooks	Sam Genter	Maranda Knight	Alisha Schonfeld
Lydia Brooks	Emmalyn Gentry	Karyn Konetzka	Sara Searcy
Evangeline Burriss	Eason Gentry	Jaedon Konetzka	Molly Sherman
Kaylee Burriss	Marleah Goodwin	Patrick Lawler	Nate Shoop
Nicholas Bush	Marleah Goodwin	Dana Madden	Monica Skinner
David Cash	Shelby Gooldy	Delany Maddix	Allison Smith
C.A.R.E Volunteers	Emma Hancock	Jenna Mann	Leonnie Sorrels
Julie Chambers	Samantha Hardin	Monique Maqueda	Kelsey Stephenson
Mary Chisholm	Jo Harker	Devin Mathews	Jen Stinson
Chris Clark	Chris Harman	Sara McCleary	Libby Storkman
Shannon Clark	David Harris	Vonda McDaniel	Codi Tarr
Belinda Coleman	Linda Jo Hauersperger	Chrissy Meador	Jose Vega
Keely Collier	Jennifer Hendershott-Turner	Amanda Murphy	Alex Webb
Danita Crow	Katie Hill	Lillian Nettleou	Tash West
Carylin Eaglen	David Hill	Madissen Pearson	Thane Wilson
Sarah Estes	Alma Hobson	Jason Perkins	Blair Witt
Anna Estes	Ben Holl	Krystal Perry	

Health Occupations - ACS wants to thank the C4 program through the local high schools and Ms. Green for providing us another great group of young people to help out. These students are provided a training site at the Animal Care Center. 2012 Health Occupations Students include the following:

Nicole Fish	Sabrina Schipper	Bayleigh Williams
Morgan Grady	Mikayla Weekly	



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In-Kind Donors

The Animal Care Center received thousands of dollars worth of donations, including services, food, and bedding, to help care for the pets, defray operating costs, and, therefore, reduce the cost to the taxpayers. The following individuals and groups donated services or items:

Athens Animal Clinic
Carolyn Findlay Davis
Caspers Clippers
Columbus City Garage
Columbus Mayor's Office
Dog World
Eastside Veterinary Hospital
Hope Veterinary Clinic
Lincoln Elementary School
Newcomers Club
Petco
Pierre's Pet Salon
Sam's Club
Target
Teresa's Pet Grooming
Walmart
Other Anonymous Donors



Petco provided and Columbus City Garage delivered needed pet supplies to the victims of the Henryville tornado in 2012 (above)



Lincoln Elementary School provided in-kind donations (left)



Monetary Donors

The Animal Care Center received over \$3,100 in monetary donations to the Adoption Medical Fund in 2012 from individuals and business. Several of the contributors were students working on their senior projects and other young people who collected donations instead of birthday presents. The following donated:

Dortha Anderson
Athens Animal Clinic
Bill Beard
Debbie Bishop
The Blasdel's
Kate Brunson
Caleb Burriss
Nicholas Bush
Jane Bush
Sandra Cain
Francis Carrier
Letitia Casebourn
Gabrielle Cheek

Jarod Cooper
Creepy Legends Paranormal Research
Carolyn Findlay Davis
Nina Del Bianco
Kelsey & Adam Endres
Faithful Friends In Passing
Caroline Fennelly
Daniel Fox
Teresa Harris
Hope Veterinary Clinic
Stephanie Johnson
Mason King
Joan Mabe-In Memory of Vicki Moffitt

Lou Marr
John McGuire
Marilian Miller
Ann Miller
Perr Investments
Ronald Schaub
Carolyn Shaw
Tim Sticker
Darch Styke
Betty Tuttle
Julie Tweed
Ilse Woehrle
Carol Wood





Other Partnerships

Mayor's Office

ACS and the Columbus Animal Care Services Commission would like to thank Mayor Kristen Brown for her support throughout 2012. The Mayor has been instrumental in challenging current practices and programs and promoting new ideas.

City Attorney's Office

ACS and the Commission would like to thank Kelly Benjamin, City Attorney, and Jeff Longston , Director of Operations and Finance, for their assistance throughout the year.

Deputy City Attorney Shari E. Long, assisted by her Legal Assistant, Alexis Roberts, worked very patiently and tirelessly with ACS and the Commission on legal matters and court cases, and continued the nearly perfect record of judgments in the City's favor. Their assistance was instrumental in drafting ordinance revisions and policies.

Columbus Animal Care Services Commission

The members of the Commission are appointed by the Mayor to four-year terms and provide guidance to and supervision of the Animal Care Services department. Commission meetings are typically held on the 4th Tuesday of each odd-numbered month and are open to the public. The following are the Commission members who served in 2012:

Ashley Anderson

Dascal Bunch, City Council

Doug Evans, President

Bob Freeman

Angela Robertson

Dr. Brock Wagner, DVM

Many thanks to Martha Myers, Sue Chapple, and Dr. Greg Baer, whose terms ended since 2011, for their many years of valuable guidance while serving on the Commission.