



Animal Control Annual Report 2007

Mission Statement

The mission of the Copperas Cove Animal Control is to maintain a sanitary and disease-free shelter, to improve quality of life for sheltered animals and to preserve a safe community environment by securing stray and abandoned animals.

Copperas Cove

Animal Control

2007

Annual Report



“The City Built for Family Living”

Animal Control

To The Honorable Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and Citizens of Copperas Cove:

Animal Control was placed under the Police Department in October 2001 and since 2003 a Copperas Cove Animal Control Annual Report has been prepared for you and we take great pleasure in presenting it. This is the fifth making of the Copperas Cove Animal Control Annual Report. We are constantly improving on this report to bring the most concise data possible. This year we added a section of some of the new laws passed by the 2007 Texas Legislative Session concerning the treatment of animals as well as the owner’s responsibilities.

This report is designed to inform you about the functions and efforts of our Animal Control Department. In reviewing this report, you may discover aspects of the Animal Control Department that you were not previously aware of. It is our intention to serve the citizens of this community in the most professional, effective and efficient manner possible. The Animal Control Officers are experienced and highly trained. All of our Animal Control Officers are state certified Animal Control Officers and are state certified to euthanize animals. The continuous training is a major contributing factor as to why we have such a professional staff at our Animal Control Facility.

The Animal Control Advisory Committee was approved by City Council in June of 2005. This committee is comprised of the Deputy Chief of Police, the Animal Control Supervisor, a licensed veterinarian, a municipal official, and a representative from an animal welfare organization. The primary function of the committee is to assist the Animal Control Department in communication awareness to the citizens of Copperas Cove regarding services, procedures, and compliance with city ordinance and state laws and to make recommendations for improvements on programs and services to better serve the community.

The Animal Control Officers make every attempt to keep our community safe by eliminating the streets of stray and vicious animals and by strict enforcement of rabies vaccinations, animals running at-large and setting up Dangerous Animal Hearings when warranted. The statistics show a 5% decrease in the number of citations issued in 2007 compared to that of 2006. Also it should be noted that the overall number of domestic animals impounded dropped 18% during 2007. We can possibly contribute some of this decrease by their strict enforcement efforts in the past and that more people are becoming responsible pet owners. It is of the utmost importance to make this city safe from animal attacks and this is accomplished by eliminating stray animals roaming.

On behalf of the members and volunteers of the Copperas Cove Animal Control Department, I wish to thank each of you for your continued support that you have provided to us and let you know that we look forward to serving the citizens of this great community.

Sincerely,

*Mike Heintzelman
Deputy Chief of Police*

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Department

Organization

Animal Control Department Organization

Organization

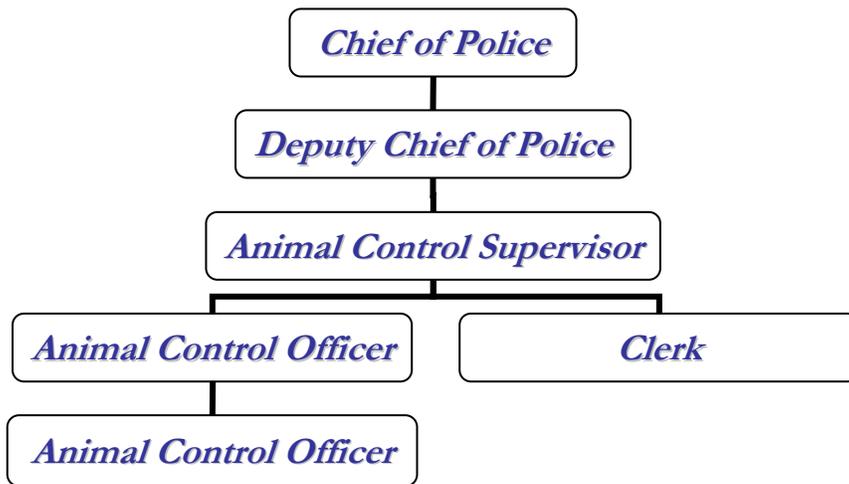
The Copperas Cove Animal Control Department consists of a total of four employees, one supervisor, two Animal Control Officers, and one clerk. Normal business and day to day operations are monitored and supervised by the Animal Control Supervisor. This department falls within the umbrella and chain of command of the Police Department. The Deputy Police Chief has direct supervision over Animal Control.

Animal Control serves to provide and maintain a healthy, safe and sanitary shelter for animals housed at the facility. Equally important is patrolling the city to locate and take possession of strays, ill, injured, deceased and/or dangerous or vicious animals and transport these animals back to the facility. Once at the facility, animals are either reclaimed by the owner, adopted, held for court disposition, transferred to the Humane Society or humanely euthanized. Animal Control Officers must also track and report animal cruelty and investigate animal bites, quarantine animals, and send suspected rabies specimens to the Texas Department of Health for testing. They also track adopted animals to ensure rabies vaccinations and sterilizations are completed as required by Texas law.

Animal Control Officers issue citations for failure to comply with the adoption agreement, failure to license animals, violating the leash ordinance, and all other violations of city ordinances and state law. The department also educates the public through the media and one on one contact regarding health and safety issues relating to animals and the citizens of Copperas Cove.

The Animal Control facility is open six days a week to serve the community. Animal Control Officers are on call after normal business hours and respond to animal calls that require immediate action.

Copperas Cove Animal Control



Impound



Report

Animal Control Impound Report 2007

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	TOTAL
DOGS													
Impounded	105	110	97	135	132	103	179	110	86	110	116	97	1380
Adopted	46	63	50	58	15	30	43	44	39	37	32	32	489
Returned to Owner	55	41	39	55	74	30	74	39	32	49	50	26	564
Euthanized	47	49	45	51	99	53	76	58	34	34	38	55	639
Adoption Exchange	2	6	1	3	1	0	2	2	1	1	3	1	23
Safekeeping return	2	0	3	0	4	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	18
Escape from Impound	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	5
Died while in Impound	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	7
License issued by CITY	23	3	14	15	17	24	28	20	13	28	22	16	223
License issued by VET	302	40	136	395	193	89	439	143	88	237	432	126	1973
Resident Surrendered	32	41	25	30	25	29	27	21	18	23	21	18	310
Non Res Surrendered	8	9	12	7	7	13	4	2	3	12	7	3	87
Humane Rescue	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	4	5	14
CATS													
Impounded	33	56	46	50	133	105	95	86	68	82	56	59	869
Adopted	14	14	5	15	10	25	18	19	12	8	7	7	154
Returned to Owner	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	16
Euthanized	28	36	46	40	108	97	79	84	53	81	46	57	755
Adoption Exchange	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	5
Safekeeping return	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	6
Escape from Impound	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	10
Died while in Impound	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	3	2	16
License issued by CITY	12	0	1	0	2	3	2	3	0	1	6	0	30
License issued by VET	72	4	24	96	29	18	70	31	19	31	99	26	376
Resident Surrendered	9	4	4	10	10	10	15	25	8	6	7	15	123
Non Res Surrendered	3	0	0	2	2	10	3	1	2	9	2	0	34
Humane Rescue	1	2	1	2	11	3	6	10	4	2	2	5	49

Animal Control Impound Report 2007

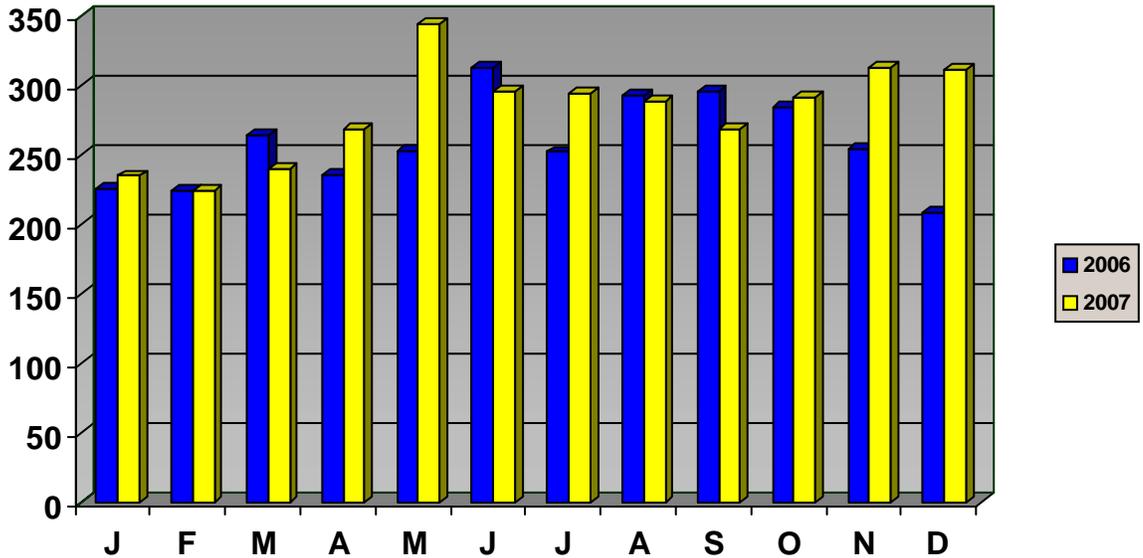
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	TOTAL
FERRETS													
Impounded	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	6
Adopted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Returned to Owner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Euthanized	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Adoption Exchange	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Safekeeping return	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Escape from Impound	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Died while in Impound	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
License issued by CITY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
License issued by VET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resident Surrendered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non Res Surrendered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humane Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
WILDLIFE/LIVESTOCK													
Impounded	4	7	20	22	11	19	20	9	20	7	11	10	160
Reclaim	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Returned to Nature	0	2	6	10	8	13	6	6	16	0	5	2	74
Euthanized	4	5	14	8	1	4	9	3	4	6	6	8	72
Humane Rescue	0	0	0	4	2	2	4	0	0	1	0	0	13
Permit issued (Exotic)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-45 Deer	12	5	3	7	4	8	2	13	3	10	15	8	90
10-45 All Other Animals	26	25	29	31	32	41	23	22	17	28	29	32	335
Livestock surrendered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BITE REPORTS	3	5	1	5	5	4	4	4	5	5	2	1	44
MONTHLY TOTALS:													
DOMESTIC IMPOUNDED:	138	166	143	185	265	208	274	196	154	192	172	156	2249
DOMESTIC ADOPTED:	60	77	55	73	25	55	61	63	52	45	39	39	644
DOMESTIC RETURNED:	56	42	42	56	75	31	75	40	33	51	51	28	580
DOMESTIC EUTHANIZED:	75	85	91	91	207	150	155	142	87	115	84	112	1394
QUARANTINE RETURN TO OWNER:	0	2	1	2	2	1	2	0	3	5	1	1	20
ADOPTION EXCHANGE:	2	6	1	3	2	0	2	3	2	1	4	2	28
SAFEKEEPING RETURN:	2	1	3	1	4	4	2	2	5	0	0	0	24
ESCAPE FROM IMPOUND:	0	4	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	2	2	14
DIED WHILE IN IMPOUND:	0	0	2	0	1	2	2	0	1	10	3	2	23
WILDLIFE NATURE REL:	0	2	6	10	8	13	6	6	16	0	5	2	74
W/L HUMANE RESCUE:	0	0	0	4	2	2	8	0	0	1	0	0	17
OWNER PERMISSION TO EUTHANIZE AFTER BITE:	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	10

Calls

For

Service

Animal Control Calls For Service 2007



The chart above compares calls for service for 2006 and 2007, and indicates a 9% increase in the number of calls for service this year. This is a total number of all calls that either citizens or the Police Department request Animal Control for assistance to either capture an animal, rescue an injured animal, animal attacks and bites, and any other calls for assistance pertaining to animals. After normal work hours calls for assistance for Animal Control are made only through the Police Department.

Total calls for service in the year of 2007 is **3373** as compared in the year of 2006 which was **3103**. In the year of 2006 a total of 98 calls were handled in the recently annexed areas of the city as compared to this past year of 2007 in which 176 were handled.

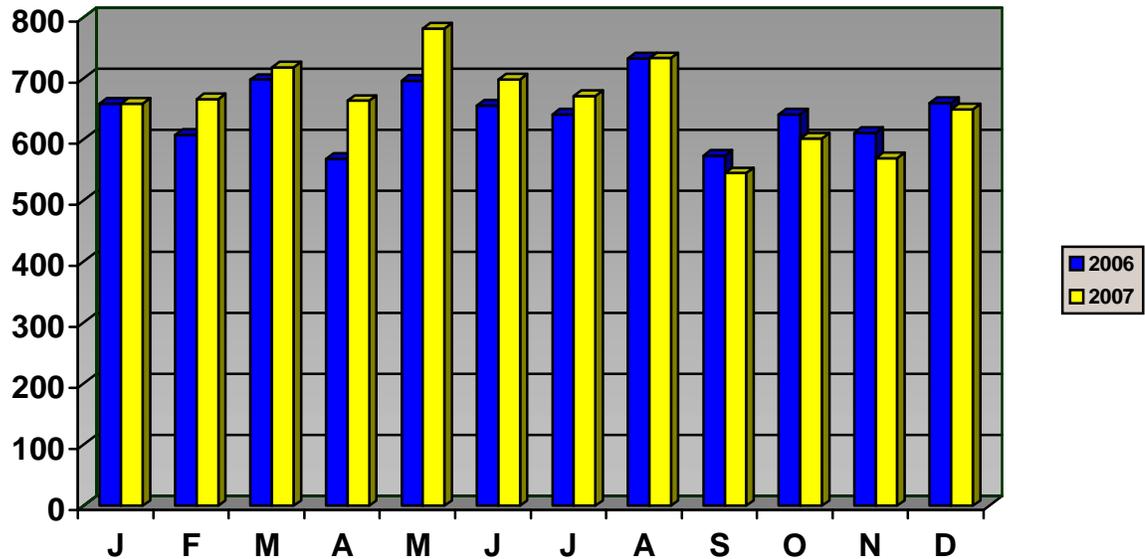


Department

Hours

Worked

Animal Control Hours Worked 2007



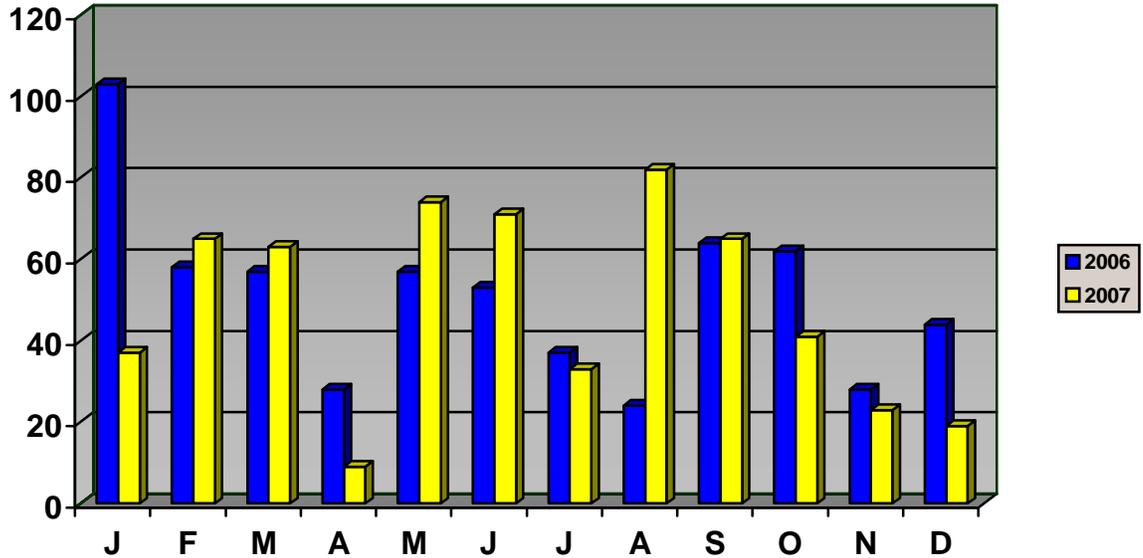
Animal Control Officers normally work a 40 hr work week but are subject to respond on a 24 hour on-call status and are called out for emergency situations by the Police Department. The chart above compares hours worked for 2006 and 2007, and indicates a 3% increase in the number of hours worked this year.



Citations

Issued

Animal Control Citations Issued 2007



Comparing the total number of hard citations in 2006 to 2007, we can see a decrease by 5% in the number of citations issued. In 2006, there were **615** citations issued and in 2007 there were **582** citations issued. A breakdown of specific charges filed is contained on page 8 of this Annual Report.



Positive Rabies Case in Coryell County:

2007 1 bat, 2 skunks, 1 raccoon *total=4

2006 1 skunk *total=1

Charges

Filed

Animal Control Charges Filed 2007

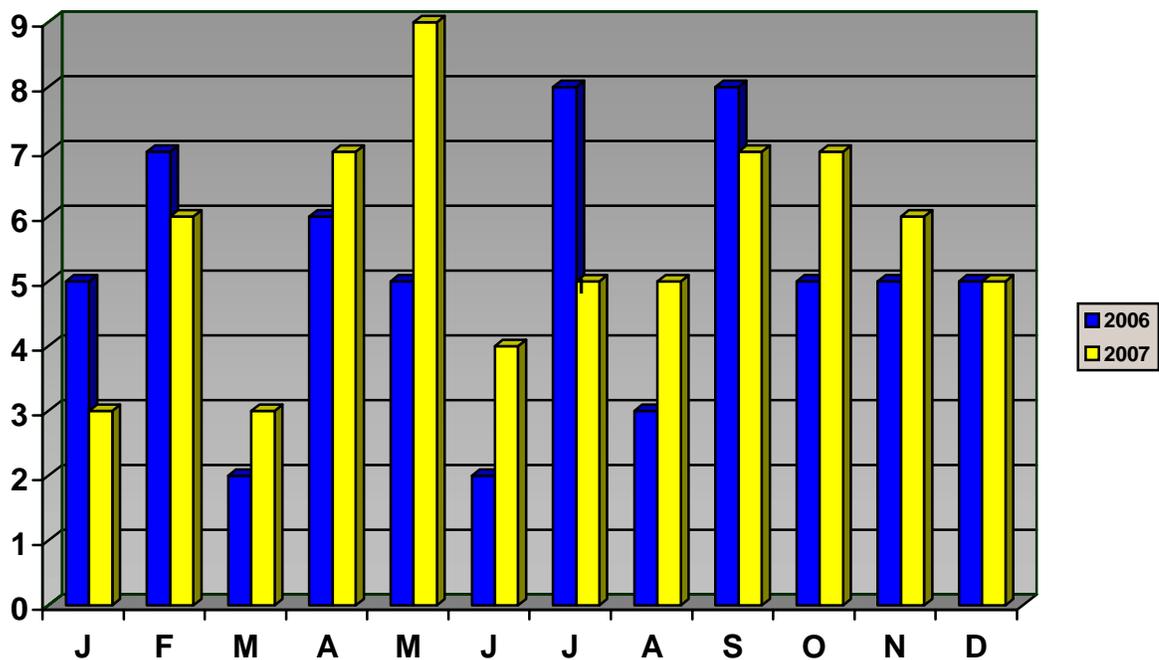
CHARGE	TOTAL
Sec 3-9 Noisy Animal Prohibited	2
Sec 3-1 Public Nuisance Animal/Hearings	9
Sec 3-23 Sanitation Requirements	3
TPC 42.09 Cruelty to Animals	3
Sec 3-33 No City License	83
Sec 3-36 No Collar When Required	32
Sec 3-39 Violate Restricted Number of Animals	3
Sec 3-40 Female Animal in Heat	1
Sec 3-46 Domestic Pet at Large	157
Sec 3-60 No Rabies Vaccination	160
HSC 828.035 Fail to Microchip/Tattoo	37
Sec 3-64 Violate Quarantine Procedures	1
Sec 3-92 Dangerous Admin Animal Hearing	5
Sec 3-93 Violation of Administrative Order	1
THSC 828.002 Fail to Sterilize Animal	83
THSC 821.023 Disposition Hearing	3
TOTAL	583



Incident

Reports

Animal Control Incident Reports 2007



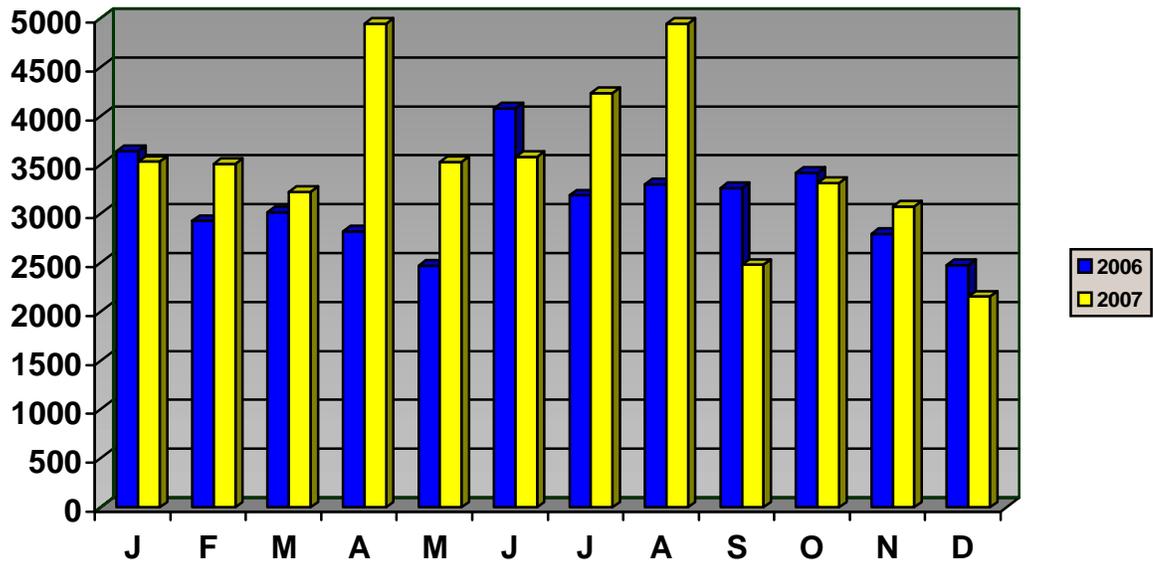
The chart above compares incident reports taken for 2006 and 2007, and indicates a increase of 10% this year. In 2006, there were **61** reports taken and in 2007 a total of **67** were taken.

Incident reports are always filed were there is a potential of contracting rabies such as animal attacks and bites as well as cat scratches. Reports are also taken for public nuisances, cruelty to animals, and other cases deemed necessary by the Animal Control Officers.

Cash

Collected

Animal Control Cash Collected 2007



The chart above compares total cash collected for 2006 and 2007, and indicates a 14% increase for this year. Cash collected for 2006 was **\$37,405.26** and 2007 was **\$42,537.75**. This money is received from impound fees, surrender fees, animal licenses, and adoption fees.

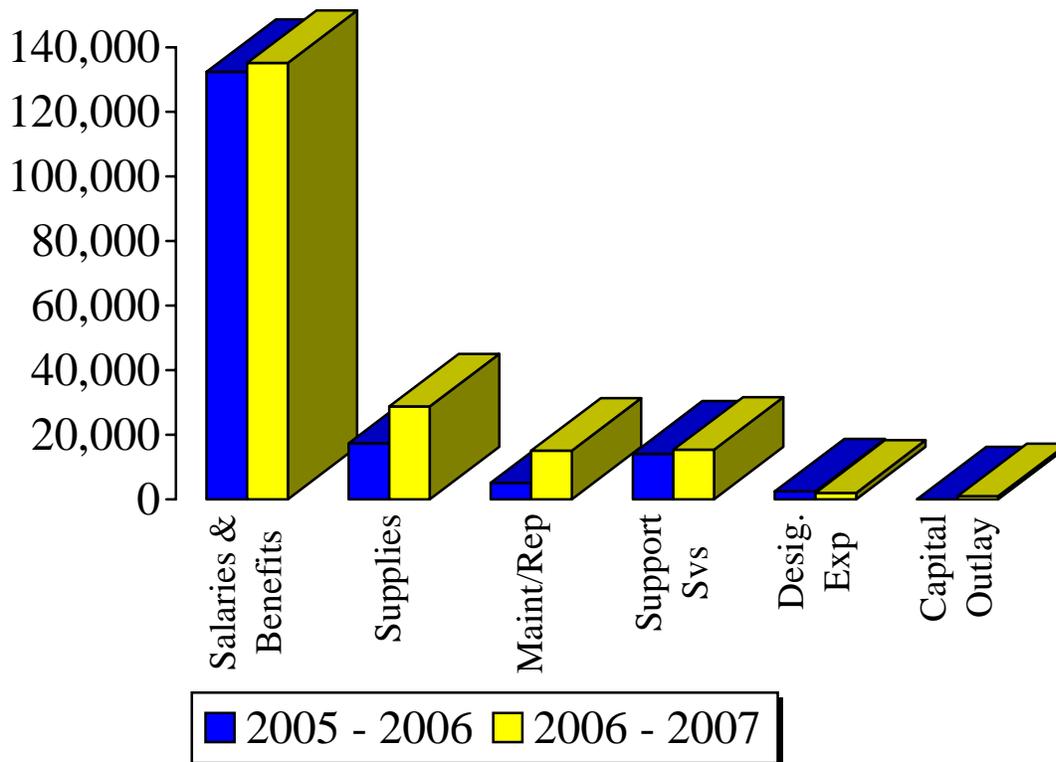
Department

Budget

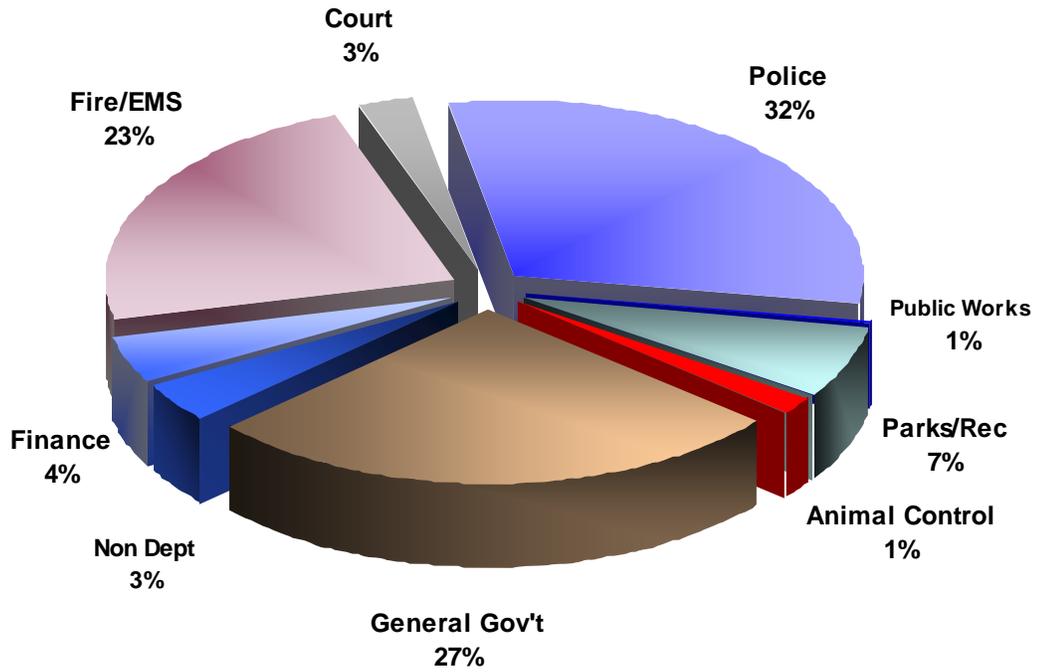
Animal Control Department Budget

Salaries & Benefits	\$132,434	\$135,178
Personnel Services	0	0
Supplies & Materials	17,359	28,740
Maintenance & Repair	5,140	15,085
Support Services	14,138	15,370
Designated Expenses	2,454	2,010
Capital Outlay	0	1,000
TOTAL	\$171,525	\$197,383

Animal Control Budget 2005 - 2006 / 2006 - 2007



Animal Control Department Budget



*New State
Laws*

Texas Health and Safety Code

SUBCHAPTER D. UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT OF DOG

§ 821.076. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

- (1) "Collar" means any collar constructed of nylon, leather, or similar material, specifically designed to be used for a dog.
- (2) "Owner" means a person who owns or has custody or control of a dog.
- (3) "Properly fitted" means, with respect to a collar, a collar that measures the circumference of a dog's neck plus at least one inch.
- (4) "Restraint" means a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable, or other device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or trolley system.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [674](#), § 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

§ 821.077. UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT OF DOG. (a) An owner may not leave a dog outside and unattended by use of a restraint that unreasonably limits the dog's movement:

- (1) between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.;
- (2) within 500 feet of the premises of a school; or
- (3) in the case of extreme weather conditions, including conditions in which:
 - (A) the actual or effective outdoor temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit;
 - (B) a heat advisory has been issued by a local or state authority or jurisdiction; or
 - (C) a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued for the jurisdiction by the National Weather Service.

(b) In this section, a restraint unreasonably limits a dog's movement if the restraint:

- (1) uses a collar that is pinch-type, prong-type, or choke-type or that is not properly fitted to the dog;
- (2) is a length shorter than the greater of:
 - (A) five times the length of the dog, as measured from the tip of the dog's nose to the base of the dog's tail; or
 - (B) 10 feet;
- (3) is in an unsafe condition; or
- (4) causes injury to the dog.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [674](#), § 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

§ 821.078. EXCEPTIONS. Section 821.077 does not apply to:

- (1) a dog restrained to a running line, pulley, or

trolley system and that is not restrained to the running line, pulley, or trolley system by means of a pinch-type, prong-type, choke-type, or improperly fitted collar;

(2) a dog restrained in compliance with the requirements of a camping or recreational area as defined by a federal, state, or local authority or jurisdiction;

(3) a dog restrained for a reasonable period, not to exceed three hours in a 24-hour period, and no longer than is necessary for the owner to complete a temporary task that requires the dog to be restrained;

(4) a dog restrained while the owner is engaged in, or actively training for, an activity that is conducted pursuant to a valid license issued by this state if the activity for which the license is issued is associated with the use or presence of a dog;

(5) a dog restrained while the owner is engaged in conduct directly related to the business of shepherding or herding cattle or livestock; or

(6) a dog restrained while the owner is engaged in conduct directly related to the business of cultivating agricultural products, if the restraint is reasonably necessary for the safety of the dog.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [674](#), §1, eff. September 1, 2007.

§ 821.079. PENALTY. (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates this subchapter.

(b) A peace officer or animal control officer who has probable cause to believe that an owner is violating this subchapter shall provide the owner with a written statement of that fact. The statement must be signed by the officer and plainly state the date on which and the time at which the statement is provided to the owner.

(c) A person commits an offense if the person is provided a statement described by Subsection (b) and fails to comply with this subchapter within 24 hours of the time the owner is provided the statement. An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

(d) A person commits an offense if the person violates this subchapter and previously has been convicted of an offense under this subchapter. An offense under this subsection is a Class B misdemeanor.

(e) If a person fails to comply with this subchapter with respect to more than one dog, the person's conduct with respect to each dog constitutes a separate offense.

(f) If conduct constituting an offense under this section also constitutes an offense under any other law, the actor may be prosecuted under this section, the other law, or both.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [674](#), § 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

§ 821.080. DISPOSITION OF PENALTY. Notwithstanding any other law, the clerk of a court that collects a penalty under this subchapter shall remit the penalty collected for deposit in the

general fund of the county.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [674](#), § 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

§ 821.081. HAND-HELD LEASHES. This subchapter does not prohibit a person from walking a dog with a hand-held leash.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [674](#), § 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

Texas Penal Code

§ 42.092. CRUELTY TO NONLIVESTOCK ANIMALS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Abandon" includes abandoning an animal in the person's custody without making reasonable arrangements for assumption of custody by another person.

(2) "Animal" means a domesticated living creature, including any stray or feral cat or dog, and a wild living creature previously captured. The term does not include an uncaptured wild living creature or a livestock animal.

(3) "Cruel manner" includes a manner that causes or permits unjustified or unwarranted pain or suffering.

(4) "Custody" includes responsibility for the health, safety, and welfare of an animal subject to the person's care and control, regardless of ownership of the animal.

(5) "Depredation" has the meaning assigned by Section 71.001, Parks and Wildlife Code.

(6) "Livestock animal" has the meaning assigned by Section 42.09.

(7) "Necessary food, water, care, or shelter" includes food, water, care, or shelter provided to the extent required to maintain the animal in a state of good health.

(8) "Torture" includes any act that causes unjustifiable pain or suffering.

(b) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly:

(1) tortures an animal or in a cruel manner kills or causes serious bodily injury to an animal;

(2) without the owner's effective consent, kills, administers poison to, or causes serious bodily injury to an animal;

(3) fails unreasonably to provide necessary food, water, care, or shelter for an animal in the person's custody;

(4) abandons unreasonably an animal in the person's custody;

(5) transports or confines an animal in a cruel manner;

(6) without the owner's effective consent, causes bodily injury to an animal;

(7) causes one animal to fight with another animal, if either animal is not a dog;

(8) uses a live animal as a lure in dog race training or in dog coursing on a racetrack; or

(9) seriously overworks an animal.

(c) An offense under Subsection (b)(3), (4), (5), (6), or (9) is a Class A misdemeanor, except that the offense is a state jail felony if the person has previously been convicted two times under this section, two times under Section 42.09, or one time under this section and one time under Section 42.09. An offense under Subsection (b)(1), (2), (7), or (8) is a state jail felony, except that the offense is a felony of the third degree if the person has previously been convicted two times under this section, two times under Section 42.09, or one time under this section and one time under Section 42.09.

(d) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that:

(1) the actor had a reasonable fear of bodily injury to

the actor or to another person by a dangerous wild animal as defined by Section 822.101, Health and Safety Code; or

(2) the actor was engaged in bona fide experimentation for scientific research.

(e) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (b)(2) or (6) that:

(1) the animal was discovered on the person's property in the act of or after injuring or killing the person's livestock animals or damaging the person's crops and that the person killed or injured the animal at the time of this discovery; or

(2) the person killed or injured the animal within the scope of the person's employment as a public servant or in furtherance of activities or operations associated with electricity transmission or distribution, electricity generation or operations associated with the generation of electricity, or natural gas delivery.

(f) It is an exception to the application of this section that the conduct engaged in by the actor is a generally accepted and otherwise lawful:

(1) form of conduct occurring solely for the purpose of or in support of:

(A) fishing, hunting, or trapping; or

(B) wildlife management, wildlife or depredation control, or shooting preserve practices as regulated by state and federal law; or

(2) animal husbandry or agriculture practice involving livestock animals.

(g) This section does not create a civil cause of action for damages or enforcement of the section.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [886](#), § 2, eff. September 1, 2007.

Texas Penal Code

§ 42.10. DOG FIGHTING. (a) A person commits an offense if he intentionally or knowingly:

- (1) causes a dog to fight with another dog;
- (2) participates in the earnings of or operates a facility used for dog fighting;
- (3) uses or permits another to use any real estate, building, room, tent, arena, or other property for dog fighting;
- (4) owns or trains a dog with the intent that the dog be used in an exhibition of dog fighting; or
- (5) attends as a spectator an exhibition of dog fighting.

(b) In this section, "dog fighting" means any situation in which one dog attacks or fights with another dog.

(c) A conviction under Subsection (a)(2) or (3) may be had upon the uncorroborated testimony of a party to the offense.

(d) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (a)(1) that the actor caused a dog to fight with another dog to protect livestock, other property, or a person from the other dog, and for no other purpose.

(e) An offense under Subsection (a)(4) or (5) is a Class A misdemeanor. An offense under Subsection (a)(1), (2), or (3) is a state jail felony.

Added by Acts 1983, 68th Leg., p. 1610, ch. 305, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1983. Renumbered from Penal Code § 42.111 and amended by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 900, § 1.01, eff. Sept. 1, 1994.

Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [644](#), § 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

Texas Health & Safety Code
"Lillian's Law"

§ 822.005. ATTACK BY DOG. (a) A person commits an offense if the person is the owner of a dog and the person:

(1) with criminal negligence, as defined by Section 6.03, Penal Code, fails to secure the dog and the dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person that occurs at a location other than the owner's real property or in or on the owner's motor vehicle or boat and that causes serious bodily injury, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code, or death to the other person; or

(2) knows the dog is a dangerous dog by learning in a manner described by Section 822.042(g) that the person is the owner of a dangerous dog, and the dangerous dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person that occurs at a location other than a secure enclosure in which the dog is restrained in accordance with Subchapter D and that causes serious bodily injury, as defined by Section 822.001, or death to the other person.

(b) An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree unless the attack causes death, in which event the offense is a felony of the second degree.

(c) If a person is found guilty of an offense under this section, the court may order the dog destroyed by a person listed in Section 822.004.

(d) A person who is subject to prosecution under this section and under any other law may be prosecuted under this section, the other law, or both.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.
Renumbered from Health & Safety Code § 822.004 and amended by
Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 99, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [669](#), § 5, eff. September 1, 2007.