



SONOMA COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

Adoption of Animal Services Fee Schedule FY23-24

Brian Whipple
Director of Sonoma County Animal Services

Mission

- Protect the health and safety of people and animals.
- Investigate and prosecute animal cruelty and neglect.
- Educate the public about responsible domestic animal ownership.
- Reduce pet overpopulation through spay/neuter programs.
- Provide a safe environment for animals in need.
- Place adoptable animals into caring homes.

Day to Day Service Updates

- Contracted with DocuPet in 2022 for dog and cat licensing
- Increased lobby hours from 12:00-5:30 to 10:00 to 5:00
- Created a separate phone queue for dispatch officer line
- Five low or no-cost spay/neuter programs
- Three trailers for emergency response, including heating and cooling centers, and natural disasters

Wohlford Consulting Fee Study Goals

- Determine the full cost of the services provided by Animal Services
- Balance revenues and/or cost-recovery
- Improve fairness and equity
- Ensure compliance with state law
- Completed May 2023

Reasons for proposed fee changes

- Determination of actual costs per fee type.
- Changes to SCAS business and fee structures.
- The development of new fees to better reflect the services provided to the public.

FY22-23 Calls for Service

Call Type	Number of Calls	Avg Response Times (Minutes)
Animals at Risk including dogs in cars, cruelty, neglect	442	57
Police and Fire Assist	100	18
Animal Bites to people, in progress	15	25
Animal Bites to people, all	305	51
Public Nuisance	173	96
Stray Aggressive Animal	25	22

Animal Impounds

Impound Fee Structure	FY22-23 Fees	FY23-24 Fees Public	FY23-24 Fees ASO	Actual Service Cost
Dog 1st Impound, Licensed	\$68.00	\$80.00	\$85.00	\$178.89/\$421.13
Dog 1st Impound, Unlicensed	\$85.00	\$105.00	\$110.00	\$193.63/\$435.88
Dog 2 or more Impounds	\$142.00	\$170.00	\$180.00	\$178.89/\$421.13
Cat, Altered	\$23.00	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$152.02/\$403.83
Cat, Unaltered	\$28.00	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$142.02/\$403.83
Livestock, Large	\$62.00	-	-	
Livestock, Small	\$28.00	-	-	
Livestock, Large/Small – 1st	-	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$601.34/\$623.96
Livestock, Large/Small - 2nd	-	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$585.32/\$601.37
Livestock, Large/Small - 3rd	-	\$585.00	\$585.00	\$585.32/\$601.37
Field Release Dog/Cat	Free	-	\$100.00	\$219.43
Stray Livestock Assistance	\$275.00	-	\$350.00	\$404.73

Animal Board

Board	Units	FY22-23 Fees	FY23-24 Fees	Actual Service Cost
Dogs	1406	\$23.00	\$35.00	\$48.59
Cats	335	\$23.00	\$25.00	\$25.70
Livestock, per head	2	\$23.00	\$51.00	\$51.66

Licenses

License Fee Type	Units	FY22-23 Fees	FY23-24 Fees	Actual Service Cost
Altered Dogs	9158	\$27.00	\$16.00*	\$19.52
Altered Dogs, Owners 62+	4515	\$13.50	\$14.00	\$19.52
Unaltered dogs	1209	\$28.42*	\$19.00*	\$19.52
Cats Altered	22	\$6.50	\$12.00	\$12.78
Cats Unaltered	0	13.00	\$12.00	\$12.78
Replacement Tags	407	\$6.00	\$12.00	\$12.78
Late Fee**		0	\$9.00	

*Courtesy reduction altered and unaltered fees to match BOS approved fees

**Late Fees waived for FY22-23 because they were not included in the BOS approved fees

Dangerous Dog Registration

PDD/VDD License	Units	FY22-23 Fees	FY23-24 Fees	Actual Service Cost
PDD License	33	\$69.35	-	-
VDD License	4	\$69.35	-	-
Voluntary Designation Year 1	3	\$28.42*	\$500.00	\$3,359.54
Court Ordered Designation Year 1	2	\$6.50	\$750.00	\$5,400.97
Annual Fee, Years 2+	37	-	\$155.00	\$1,044.48
Collar, Leash and Sign	-	-	\$100.00	\$188.84

*Courtesy reduction altered and unaltered fees to match BOS approved fees

Recommendation

It is recommended by the City Manager's Office and Sonoma County Animal Services that the Council, by resolution, approve and adopt revised animal services fees.



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QUESTIONS