

YOLO COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
PRESS RELEASE

Re: "Dog Leashing and Licensing a Must." Advises Animal Services  
Date: February 8, 2008

Contact: Michele Wallace, Public Information Officer (530) 406-5163

Yolo County Animal Services want to remind pet owners of the need to keep their dogs on a leash when away from home. Leash laws require dogs to be on a leash and under control whenever they're off their owners' property, unless a specific area is designated for unleashed dogs. This is done for the safety of the pet as well as the safety of others. Animal Services, a section of the Yolo County Sheriff's Department, wants to ensure the health and welfare of your animals, and the citizens of Yolo County.

A dog running loose can be picked up and taken to the animal shelter by Animal Services Officers. The owner will be fined and charged for the cost of impounding the dog. If the dog is unlicensed or lack required vaccinations, there may be other fines as well.

During the last six months Animal Services wrote ten citations for off leash violations. Some community residents have become leery about being able to walk freely in their neighborhoods, for fear of a possible attack on them or their pets. There are other risks to allowing a dog to run at large. The dog will be hit by a passing vehicle. The pet owner would be financially liable if the dog causes trouble.

In addition to leashing and licensing laws, Animal Services wants to also remind dog owners of county ordinances that are citable offenses in regard cleaning up after your pet.

Local law enforcement will be stepping up patrol in the parks as well as Animal Services in order to resolve these problems. They prefer to take the opportunity to educate, rather than take enforcement action, hoping to get compliance in a positive way.

Follow these guidelines:

- Leash your dog whenever off your property unless in a designated 'off-leash park'
- License your pet and have him/her wear a current license tag on the collar
- Keep your pet's vaccinations up-to-date, and keep current records on file
- Clean up after your pet

For further information you can contact Yolo County Animal Services at (530) 668-5287.