

Frederick County Government Administrative Policy and Procedures

Number:

10-01

REMOVAL OF ANIMAL CARCASS ON A COUNTY ROAD OR RIGHT-OF-WAY POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of the Removal of Animal Carcass on a County Road or Right-of-way Policy is to only require the citizens of Frederick County to report the animal carcass (Domestic or Wildlife) initially to either the Public Works Division or the Animal Control Division, thereby eliminating the need for citizens to call several agencies before appropriate action is taken. The need for any follow-up as to specific responsibilities will be coordinated and communicated between the Public Works Division and the Animal Control Division.

The following policy and procedures shall be implemented by the Public Works Division and the Animal Control Division when a citizen complaint is received concerning an animal carcass on a county road or right-of-way:

A. Handling of Domestic Animal Carcass

The Animal Control Division is the primary agency to handle deceased domestic animals found on county roadways. Domestic animals are defined as dogs, cats, ferrets, and any livestock, meaning domestic farm animals, which would include cattle, equine, swine, sheep, and goats.

Due to Animal Control receiving information on a daily basis of lost and/or found animals, their mission is to return animals to their owners. Any animal carcass found is identified to assure there is not an owner or to assure a lost report has been filed with Animal Control. When citizens' questions arise concerning possibly owned animals, Animal Control can be contacted by calling 301-600-1544.

B. Removal of Wildlife Animal Carcass

The Public Works Division is concerned about the safety of the county's roadway system. Obstructions or objects in the roadway (such as animal carcasses) may cause drivers to make undesirable maneuvers. As such, Public Works is responsible for removing wildlife animal carcasses from the county's road right-of-way, mainly from the road and shoulder areas. Typically, Public Works will remove only large wildlife animal carcasses, such as deer, bear, etc. Smaller

wildlife animal carcasses will typically remain at the scene and will not be picked up unless they are causing a safety issue for the travelling public. Public Works can be contacted by calling 301-600-1564.

C. Receiving Initial Complaint from Citizens

It shall be the responsibility of personnel at the Public Works Division and the Animal Control Division upon receiving an initial call of an animal carcass on or near a county roadway to take the information from the caller as to their name, address, and telephone number, to include cellular phone, and to either handle the call or notify the appropriate agency. The caller will be advised as to which agency (Public Works Division or Animal Control Division) will be handling the call.

Additionally, personnel must inquire whether the animal carcass is on the road or if not approximately how far off the road. This information will be used to determine whether Public Works (within 25 feet of the centerline of the county roadway) or the Department of Natural Resources (over 25 feet from the centerline of the county roadway) is responsible for taking appropriate action on the complaint. If the Department of Natural Resources needs to be contacted directly, this action shall be handled by the appropriate county agency by calling 301-777-7771.

NOTE: For animal carcasses on private property (over 25 feet from the centerline of the county roadway), the Department of Natural Resources does not remove the animal carcass but will instead provide a local company contact for the resident to call for removal of the animal carcass. The resident will be responsible for the cost of the removal. The County's typical roadway right-ofway is 50 feet, twenty-five feet on each side of the centerline of the county roadway.

- Lak	7/27/10
Harold Domer, Jr∖	Date
Director, Animal Control Division	
Thomas Meunier Director, Division of Public Works	7/27/10 Date
Ronald A. Hart County Manager	7/v1/10 Date