



NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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POLICY CHANGE CLARIFICATION

Los Angeles – LA Animal Services wants to clarify a recent change in policy designed to help better manage this year's seasonal influx of pets.

Owner relinquished pets represent 30% of all animals taken in by the city's Animal Care Centers. During the summer months these unwanted pets cause serious overcrowding. Most of these animals are brought in over the weekend, the busiest days of the week, affecting adoption efforts for all the animals.

To better provide the best care to these animals and maximize their chances of being adopted at Animal Services' many weekend adoption events, Animal Services is asking pet owners to consider bringing their unwanted pets during the following hours:

**Tuesday or Thursday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Or Wednesday or Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Sick and injured pets, neonates and nursing mothers are accepted at any time.

Pet owners intent on relinquishing their pets are asked to first exhaust all other options: To seek other living arrangements for their pets among family and friends, to talk with our staff, volunteers or other organizations about whatever issues are arising, or to consult with trainers or behaviorists, etc. to see if whatever problems they are encountering can be addressed without giving up on the animal.

We also encourage a visit to: <http://www.wonderpuppy.net/canwehelp/> if you are looking for tools and resources to help you keep your pet.

"If, after all other options are explored, you are still determined to relinquish your pet we want Angelenos to understand that by working with the department in this way, you will help increase your pet's chances of being re-homed during our many weekend adoption events", said Ed Boks, general manager of LA Animal Services.

"When our week day hours are not convenient to an owner needing to relinquish a pet the animal can still be brought to any Animal Care Center - 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at
1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.

We create happiness by bringing pets and people together!