



Chatham County Board of Commissioners

124 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401

Press Release

For Immediate Release

July 22, 2020

Chatham County Animal Services Investigates Alleged Animal Abuse Cases

Chatham County, GA (July 23, 2020) – On Monday July 21, 2020, Chatham County Animal Services opened investigations on two alleged animal neglect cases. Both cases were reported to us via Facebook, one in the Windsor Forest area and the other in East Savannah. While we cannot release details of these ongoing investigations, we are in contact with the individuals involved. Neither dog is in eminent danger.

Animal Services officers have made repeated visits to both residences since becoming aware of the situations on Monday. The owner of the dog at the East Savannah location has worked with Animal Services to become compliant with the code and the dog is safe. Likewise, the dog at the Windsor Road location is safe. Animal Services continues to work within the bounds of the law to educate and ensure the owner comes into compliance with Chatham County Ordinances.

Animal Services would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone how to keep animals safe as the temperatures rise in Chatham County. When dogs are outside, they need access to fresh water and food as well as shelter from direct sunlight or inclement weather. Additionally, areas where they are kept need to be well-ventilated to allow for the dissipation of heat.

“In the Windsor Road case, Animal Services did not receive a complaint on Saturday when the video that was on Facebook was taken. It wasn’t until Monday that we were notified about the issue. We need our community to call us or use the complaint form on our website when they see a problem”, said Animal Services Director Dr. Jake Harper. “Additionally, if anyone has direct evidence, like video or pictures that they have taken of possible animal neglect or abuse, and are willing to be a witness, please call us and we will get that evidence from you to add to the case file.”

In cases where citizens are concerned for the welfare of animals in Chatham County, please use the following methods to notify Animal Services:

- Call (912) 652-6575 daily from 8 AM-5PM. For after-hours emergency, dial 911.
- Use the FILE A COMPLAINT link at the bottom of our homepage, animalservices.chathamcountyga.gov
- While we do not monitor Facebook for complaints, you can use the Contact Us button on our Facebook page to access the FILE A COMPLAINT form found on our website.

Together we can work to help elevate animal welfare in Chatham County.

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