

About Animal Control in Avondale



The Avondale Police Department's Animal Control Division has oversight of certain animal related issues in the city. Animal Control Officers are on duty during regular business hours seven days a week (excluding holidays). They respond to:

- ▶ Aggressive Animals
- ▶ Animal Bites
- ▶ Animal Cruelty
- ▶ Injured Animals
- ▶ Contained Animals
- ▶ Barking Dogs

The mission of the Animal Control Division is to provide professional and timely response to animal-related calls for service. The goal of the Animal Control Division is to handle calls for service related to animals so that Police Officers can direct their time and resources to crime prevention and other public safety needs. The Animal Control Division is committed to developing responsible pet owners through community education.

Avondale Police Department
Animal Control Division

11485 W. Civic Center Drive • Avondale, AZ 85323
(623) 333-7345 • www.avondale.org/animalcontrol

Responsible Pet Owners

Being a responsible pet owner is much more than just providing water, food and shelter for your pet.

- ☑ Spay or neuter your pets. There are too many homeless animals. Don't add to the problem.
- ☑ Provide veterinary care for your pet. Keep their vaccinations up to date and make sure they have annual checkups.
- ☑ License your dog with Maricopa County every year. This is the law!
- ☑ Don't let your pet run loose. Dogs should be on leashes or in a securely fenced area.
- ☑ Keep an ID tag on your pet, cats included.
- ☑ Obedience train and socialize your animal.
- ☑ Provide your pet the proper diet. Obesity can be as deadly as malnutrition. Be aware that some foods can be deadly, such as chocolate and fatty foods can cause illness.
- ☑ Make sure your pet get proper amount of exercise.
- ☑ Did you know? An outdoor cat's average lifespan is 3 years, an indoor cat's average lifespan is 14 years.
- ☑ Don't make your dog a "backyard dog". Dogs thrive on companionship.
- ☑ Never leave your pet in the car on a warm day or in the yard without shade and water. Risking your pet's life is against the law.
- ☑ Be considerate to your pets during holidays like Fourth of July and Halloween when loud noise and crowds can scare your pets. Secure pets indoors to protect them.
- ☑ Take special care of your pet during their senior years remembering that they may need extra care and attention as they age.



Owning a pet is a lifetime commitment. Be kind to your pet and show him love. Remember you are his world.

Are you a Responsible Pet Owner?



The Avondale Police Department wants to partner with you to promote proper care for pets. You can be a responsible pet owner by making sure that your pet does not pose a threat to public safety.

- ☑ Vaccinate
- ☑ License
- ☑ ID
- ☑ Leash
- ☑ Spay or Neuter

Remember that like you, your pet needs the proper diet and exercise. Be sure to walk your dog frequently, obey leash laws, and make sure that your yard is securely fenced so your dog will not run loose, potentially scaring or harming neighborhood children, residents or other pets.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A VICIOUS DOG

1. Stand your ground. Do not run.
2. Do not show fear.
3. Do not look the dog in the eyes, which the dog considers a challenge.
4. Do not scream or turn your back.
5. Keep your hands in. Do not extend your arms.
6. If you can, point the end of a stick at the dog's eyes and keep it between you and the dog if he circles.
7. Get something between you and the dog -- a tree, car, etc.
8. Tell the dog to go home. Use authority.
9. When the dog backs off, take steps backward until you are out of danger.

WHEN AN ANIMAL BITES:

1. Call Avondale Police at (623) 333-7001, or 911 for serious bites.
2. Seek medical attention for all bites.
3. Identify the animal
 - ✓ Breed
 - ✓ Color
 - ✓ Markings
 - ✓ Location last seen
 - ✓ Size
4. If possible, contain the animal safely, but do not try to contain a vicious dog.
5. If the animal's vaccinations are not current or verifiable, the animal must be quarantined for a minimum of 10 days at the owner's expense.





Avondale's "Partners 4 Pets" program is designed to build positive partnerships between the Police Department and pet owners throughout the community. By working together, we can:

- ☑ Reduce unwanted and homeless pets by spaying and neutering
- ☑ Reduce the loose pet population by using leashes and fences
- ☑ Reduce nuisances to neighbors by being mindful of animal noise

With your help, we can increase the quality of life and health of Avondale's pet population.

Remember - caring is not only kindness, it's the law!

Barking Dogs



Many pet owners are not aware that their pet is causing a disturbance when they are not home. The Avondale Police Department focuses on informing pet owners about their pet's behavior and educating them on the steps they can take to change that behavior.

The Avondale Police Department will address barking dog complaints only when an exact street address is provided and the caller is willing to provide their name and contact information to enforce the complaint.

Noise complaints are tracked by address. If noise complaints become excessive at an address, the pet owner or homeowner can face a misdemeanor criminal citation.

To register a complaint with the Avondale Police Department about a barking dog, you must provide:

- ▶ Your name, address and contact information
- ▶ Exact street address where barking dog is located

Call (623) 333-7000 during business hours (7 am – 5 pm). After hours, leave a message on the "Partners 4 Pets" Hotline at (623) 333-7345 and the next available Animal Control Officer will investigate.

Aggressive/Vicious Animals

Avondale's Animal Control Officers and Police Officers will respond to aggressive animal complaints and animal bites only when the animal displays the following specific behaviors:

- ▶ Fierce bark and growl indicating attack
- ▶ Baring teeth, lifted tail, raised ears and hair on back
- ▶ Lunging posture



To register a complaint with the Avondale Police Department about a vicious animal, you must provide your name, address and contact information as well as information to verify the viciousness of the animal.

Call (623) 333-7000 during business hours (7 am – 5 pm). After hours, leave a message on the "Partners 4 Pets" Hotline at (623) 333-7345 and the next available Animal Control Officer will investigate.

Loose Animals/ Stray Dogs



The Avondale Police Department does not respond to loose animals or stray dog calls. Most often, stray animals are gone upon an officer's arrival. The time spent trying to locate a loose or stray animal can be better spent on higher priority public safety calls for service.

You can contain the animal in your fenced yard and call the "Partners 4 Pets" Hotline at (623) 333-7345. The next available Avondale Animal Control Officer will respond during business hours. If your call comes in after regular business hours, you may have to hold the animal for a period of 24+ hours during the week or 48+ hours over weekends and holidays.

If you want to help a stray animal, contain the animal and take it to the Maricopa County Animal Shelter (602-506-PETS) at 2323 S. 35th Ave in Phoenix.