



JANUARY 2019

CHANGE AHEAD

ANIMAL CONTROL Starts Year with Changes

Madison County Animal Care and Control is starting off the new year with some changes.

The animal control facility will no longer be open on Saturday.

"It's unfortunate that we will no longer be open, but due to budget cuts it's a decision we had to make," Katherine Conder, animal control manager, said. "We have adjusted our scheduling to allow for it."

The facility will be open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the exception of holidays.

Regardless of the schedule, Conder said anyone who needs assistance outside of the facility hours can call ahead and make arrangements to come to animal control.

"We understand this may be an inconvenience for some, but the facility was only open for a few hours on Saturday," she said.

Conder said the new schedule will make it easier for staff to arrange time off and reduce overtime. Animals control staff will continue to take care of the animals seven days a week,

Despite the challenges, Conder said the staff at animal control are working to make a difference.

"I feel confident in saying, over the past year, we at animal control have made some adjustments so that we are providing a higher level of customer service and animal care," she said. "We are reducing costs, but not sacrificing animal care."

CHANGES in the LAW

Another change includes the appointment of the Veterinarian Adam Ohms. Ohms replaced Dr. Ryan Jacob who left the facility on Dec. 31 to take a new position at an veterinary clinic in Southern Illinois.

"We are looking forward to working with Dr. Ohms," County Chairman Kurt Prenzler said.

Prenzler said there is a lot happening at animal control and it's all exciting.

Conder said the department had a new logo created and incorporated the animals into it. She said before it was just printed words with no art.



The facility also put in a new multipurpose room for animals.

Conder said the room will allow a place for long-term cats to be spayed and neutered and live a cage-free existence until they are pulled by rescues.

"The room could also be used for dogs that might need some down or quiet time," she said.

The room can also be used for pet quarantines for animals with a possible contagious illness.

Animal Control is also looking for donations of items that can be used in the room such as scratching posts, toys or anything the animals can play with or occupy themselves.

Looking ahead, Conder said animal control will put more resources into communication with the public and public education efforts.

"Over the next year I think we're going to continue to grow our outreach for finding homes for the dogs and cats in our community," she said.

Animal Welfare Act amendments (HB 05029)— Separates and defines "cat breeder," "dog breeder," "boarding" and "day care operator" and makes conforming changes to the relevant statutes. Currently, "kennel operator" encompasses all 4 definitions.

Humane Care for Animals Act (SB 02270)— Allows a law enforcement officer to take temporary custody of a dog or cat if the animal is exposed in a manner that is life-threatening or may result in injury. However, the officer must attempt to make contact with the owner, who is responsible for the cost required for veterinary care.

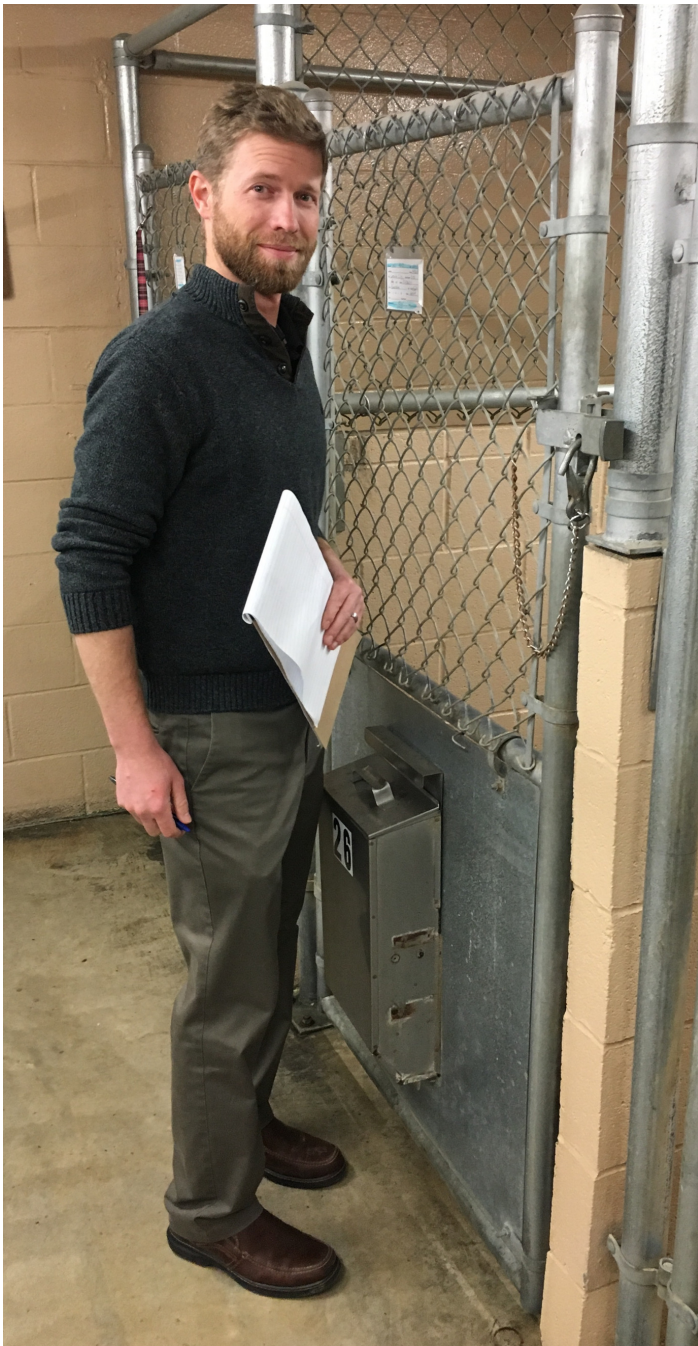
Pet Microchip (SB 02380)—Animal control facilities and animal shelters have to report intake and outcome statistics to the Department of Agriculture.

Reckless Dog Owner (SB02386)— Creates a "reckless dog owner" determination if the owner's dog is deemed dangerous for killing another dog and is found running at large twice within 12 months of being deemed dangerous. A "reckless dog owner" is prohibited from owning dogs for between 12 and 36 months.



Police Service Dog Protection Act (HB01671)— Requires a vehicle transporting a police dog to be equipped with a heat sensor that remotely alerts law enforcement if the vehicle reaches 85 degrees and a safety mechanism to lower the interior temperature.

Animal Control Act update (SB2313)— Allows counties to keep all the funds collected through the Illinois Animal Control Act Public Safety fines. The monies can be deposited in the county's Pet Population Fund. The funds can be used to spay/neuter/vaccinate feral cats, spay/neuter adopted dogs or cats and spay/neuter/vaccinate the pets owned by people on food stamps or Social Security Disability Benefits.



THE DOCTOR IS IN

Meet the new Veterinarian

Adam Ohms didn't always plan on becoming a veterinarian, but 14 years after graduating college he's now operating his own practice and is the new director of Madison County Animal Care and Control.

"I think that I'm different from most veterinarians because I did not always know I wanted to be one," Ohms said.

Ohms grew up in Scales Mound, which is a small town in northern Illinois near the Wisconsin border. The town has a population of around 350 and Ohms graduated high school with a class of 21.

Ohms said although he always had pets growing up — a dog, ferret, hamsters, chameleons and a turtle — as well as bottle raising four Angus heifers, (Annabelle, Jezzabelle, Lullabelle and Taco Belle) he didn't come to realize his current path until his first year of undergraduate studies at Western Illinois University.

"One afternoon I was working cattle with a local veterinarian and my employer suggested I pursue that career," he said. "It was just like something clicked and I never looked back."

Ohms graduated WIU with a Bachelor of Science degree where he majored in zoology and double minored in animal science and chemistry. He started his veterinary career working as an associate veterinarian in Galena, Ill.

In 2011, Ohms moved to Edwardsville when he began working at Hawthorne Animal Hospital in Glen Carbon. He's also worked as an associate veterinarian for Rosewood Pet Hospital in Rosewood Heights, Bethalto Animal Clinic, Animal Emergency Center in Collinsville as well Metro East Humane Society in Edwardsville.

In 2018, Ohms opened Heartland Veterinary Hospital in Edwardsville.

"I have worked on the private practice side of veterinary medicine for the past 10 years and I'm looking forward to the new challenges that Madison County will offer as I continue to dedicate myself to my profession," Ohms said.

Ohms started in his new role on Jan. 1. The County Board approved his appointment in December. He replacing Dr. Ryan Jacob who resigned on Dec. 31 to take a position at a veterinary clinic in Southern Illinois.

Ohms said he loves the diversity in what he does and is constantly continuing his education. In May 2009, Ohms received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Illinois.

He said he's happy to discuss everything from primary wellness to doing orthopedic surgery to fix a torn cruciate ligament to surgery on soft tissue removing a parathyroid gland to managing a diabetic all in the same day.

"I get to enjoy every facet of medicine across multiple species," he said. "The hard part is discussing the cost associated with healthcare — every veterinarian will tell you this."

He said taking on his new role at animal control will be a challenge, especially trying to balance public resources with animal care needs.

"I am looking forward to being a part of the good work in reducing the number of animals that are euthanized and working with the animal rescue groups," Ohms said.

★ DEPUTY DAWG

The Sheriff's Favorite Deputy

Name: Barney Fife Lakin

Age: 15 **Breed:** Shitzu mix

Occupation: Deputy Sleeper

Owner: Sheriff John Lakin



Favorite Place?

In one of three beds. I mean come on I like to sleep, I'm old.

Favorite Food?

I like everything, but I really do like vegetables — celery and cauliflower are some of my faves.

Squeaky or bouncy? *I liked squeaky for sure.*

Guilty Pleasure?

The best part was tearing out the plastic squeaker and showing it to the Sheriff what a good job I had done.

It's the weekend, what are your plans?

In the 45 minutes I'm awake, I like to go outside, eat and bark. I used to love to get dressed up too, put on a sweater or doggie coat.

What's something annoying that your person does? *He doesn't pay enough attention to me anymore, but really all I do is sleep nowadays so I won't complain.*

Do you have any special talents? *I sing or at least I used to before going blind and deaf. When I first came to live with the Sheriff and Amy I heard the Gwen Stefani song "Sweet Escape" on the TV and came running from another room so I wouldn't miss it. I stopped and burst out in song with her. I also liked to sing to Alvin and the Chipmunks.*

What's something good about your person?

He gave me a home when I didn't have one. He adopted me from Metro East Humane Society. When he first brought me home I think they thought I was possessed or something because I just sat there staring at them and growled. Really I was just scared.

Another thing is since I started going blind a few years ago they haven't moved the furniture in the house at all.





Employees Get Ugly for A Cause

Madison County held its first Christmas Open House on Dec. 20, 2018 that was sponsored by county elected officials. During the event, employees presented Animal Control with \$710 they raised from a two-day Denim Days for Dogs and Cats fundraiser that was held in December.

At the Open House employees who were dressed up in a Ugly Sweater were able to enter a drawing for a chance to win a \$100 Kemmol's gift certificate that was donated toward the fundraising event for Animal Control. We thank everyone who participated.



Salmon Cat Treats



10 oz canned salmon undrained
1 egg beaten
2 cups whole wheat flour "Goldfish" Small Cookie Cutters
<https://amzn.to/2BHG6CF>

1. Heat oven to 350°. Pulse 10 oz canned salmon (undrained) in a food processor and chop as finely as possible.
2. In a stand mixer, combine salmon, 1 egg (beaten) and 2 cups whole wheat flour until dough forms. If dough is too dry, add up to 1/3 cup water. If dough is too wet or sticky, add a bit more flour. Dough should be tacky but not sticky.
3. Roll out dough on a floured surface until about 1/4 inch thick. Use a 3/4-inch cookie cutter in the shape of your choice to create your treats.
4. Place treats on a parchment-lined baking sheet and bake at 350° for about 20 minutes. When they're slightly browned and crunchy, they're done.
5. Allow to cool before serving.
6. Store in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks.

JANUARY EVENTS

click on image for more information

15

Eat Pizza to Raise Some Dough!

All volunteers, employees, families and friends of Partners for Pets are invited to dinner on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019**

Join us at Dewey's Pizza 112 E. Vandalia Street in Edwardsville

Present this paper certificate or via mobile device & up to 20% of all food & beverage purchases from 4pm - 10pm (dine-in or carry-out) will be donated to

PARTNERS FOR PETS

18

Spaghetti Dinner
to benefit Partners for Pets

Friday, Jan. 18th from 4 to 8pm

\$8 per person
\$5 for children 10 and under

Includes spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, garlic bread, drink, and dessert.
(Vegetarian option available)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
106 N. Border St., Troy IL

Call 618-540-7387 or email PartnersforPetsadoption@yahoo.com for more information.

13

GRANITE CITY APA FUNDRAISER

TACO SALE

\$2.50 EACH

EAT IN OR CARRY OUT
12:00 PM TIL 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 2019

AMVETS
1711 KENNEDY DRIVE
MADISON, IL

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND HELP THE ANIMALS

ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TO HELP THE ANIMALS AT THE SHELTER — OUR 4 LEGGED FRIENDS THANK YOU!!!

18

new year for the strays

TRIVIA NIGHT 2019

PURINA

Purchase tickets at NewYearForStrays.com

Friday, January 18, 2019

19

2019 Hope Rescues Trivia Night!

Proceeds benefit Hope Animal Rescues

Wild, Wild West Style!
(contest for best dressed, best decorated table)

Saturday
January 19, 2019

Madison County Fireman's Hall
9510 Collinsville Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

Doors open at 6pm
Trivia starts at 7pm

\$200.00
Per team (table)
Or
\$20.00 per person

19

adult spelling bee

BENEFITING METRO EAST HUMANE SOCIETY

visit us

