



THE SCOOP



Staff Contact: (714) 754-5128
 Animal Control: (714) 754-5674
 Animal Licensing: (714) 754-5300

www.costamesaca.gov/pets
www.pricelesspetrescue.org
www.newportcenterah.com



(Tom, pictures courtesy of Priceless Pet Rescue)

CAT OF THE MONTH

Tom is a three-year-old male, white and orange domestic short hair feline. Tom has received the nickname "Big Boy Tom" due to his hefty size.

Although Tom is large fellow, he is a sweet and loving cat who enjoys cuddling with humans. Tom would make a great companion to any home.

Tom is confident that new owner is just around the corner to welcome him to his new forever home. For more information on how to adopt or meet Tom in person, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org.



(Pepper, pictures courtesy of Priceless Pet Rescue)

DOG OF THE MONTH

Pepper is a female Pit Bull Terrier who is as cute as can be. This 4-year-old is a sweetheart looking for a new owner to adorn with affection and companionship.

Pepper would do best as the only dog in the home, as she is dog selective. She enjoys playing with her toys, going for walks, and getting body rubs.

Once you meet this happy gal, she'll show you just how friendly and loving she truly is. If you are interested in adopting or learning more about Pepper, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org.

ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WELCOMES THEIR NEW MEMBERS

Following a 14-month hiatus due to the pandemic, the Animal Services Committee has returned to holding their normally scheduled meetings.

Meetings are currently being held via Zoom at 4 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the odd numbered months.

During the March 24 meeting, Committee members elected their officers, received their Brown Act Training, and established the 2021 goals.

New and previous members were able to introduce themselves to the Committee and look forward to getting back into action. The next Animal Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26 at 4 p.m.

Animal Services Committee Positions and Terms

- Becca Walls - Chairperson (2-year term)
- Jay Litvak - Vice Chairperson (1-year term)
- Nicole Dunger - Member (2-year term)
- Diana Gardiner - Member (2-year term)
- Linda Kwoun - Member (1-year term)
- Alyssa McKay - Member (1-year term)
- Angela Minjares - Member (1-year term)
- Steve Parker - Alternate (1-year term)
- Andrea Pike - Alternate (1-year term)

City Council Liaisons

- Council Member Loren Gameros
- Council Member Don Harper

ANIMAL SERVICES OPERATIONS



June is Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month! Here is the step-by-step process to adopting a cat with Priceless Pet Rescue.

1. Visit their website at www.pricelesspetrescue.org to view adoptable pets.
2. Find a match and read their bio.
3. Locate the pet to see which adoption center it's located.
4. Apply online to save time! Submitting an application does not "hold" the pet you are interested in.
5. Meet the pet in person! No appointment necessary.
6. If you've found your match, Priceless Pet Rescue will review your application, finalize the adoption, and you are set to take your new pet home.



Kitten season is upon us and Priceless Pet Rescue is in need of additional bottle feeders, mom and babies fosters, and decompression fosters for those pets that need a little extra love.

Priceless Pet Rescue will provide training, mentorship, supplies, and foster relief.

For more information on becoming a foster caretaker, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org/get-involved.



Newport Center ANIMAL HOSPITAL & PET HOTEL SUITES

2020 was definitely a year to remember for many reasons. Even our animal shelter could not escape being affected by the pandemic, but also had some positives aspects.

With owners staying home more often, the amount of stray animals decreased by 50% from the previous year. Additionally, the percentage of animals returned to their owners increased from 19% to 27% as shown below.

Statistics - Year Comparison

<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
• Impounds: 828	• Impounds: 416
• Returned to owner: 158	• Returned to owner: 112

Though we are hopeful for a return to normalcy soon, we would like for these shelter trends to continue and keep pets safely at home.

To ensure the safe return of your pet in the event they get loose, license your dog, get your cats and dogs microchipped, and place an ID tag on their collar.

If you find a lost pet in Costa Mesa, be sure to call Animal Control immediately at (714) 754-5674.

ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 2021 GOALS

At the March 2021 Animal Services Committee meeting, the committee reviewed the 2020 goals and made revisions for this current year.

Below are the 2021 Animal Services Committee goals.

1. Produce public service announcements, in print and in video, related to the three-pronged partnership with Animal Control, Newport Center Animal Hospital, and Priceless Pet Rescue.
2. Educate the public on responsible pet ownership and care no less than six times per year.

3. Consider and make a recommendation to the City Council regarding ordinances related to the existing TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) Program.
4. Assist Animal Control with promotion and education related to coyotes and the Coyote Management Plan.
5. Cooperate and coordinate with the Parks and Community Services, Animal Care Services, events, initiatives, and projects.
6. Promote and implement the Pet Financial Assistance Program by obtaining funds through community partnerships, grants, and donations.

COSTA MESA BARK PARK

Dean Romine, a Life Scout with the Boy Scouts of America, earned his Eagle rank in January 2020 after completing his Improvement Project involving the Costa Mesa Bark Park.

Dean's plan was to earn at least \$3,000 to purchase dog agility equipment items to place inside the park to promote physical, mental, and social benefits for dogs and their owners.

Dean worked with City staff and the Lions Club to raise funds for his project and in less than two (2) months, he was able to surpass his goal by raising \$3,500.

Dean's project was approved by the Animal Services Committee, which allowed him to purchase five (5) items that included: a teeter totter, agility walk, wall jump, flexible weave poles, and wait table.

On February 27, 2020 the Parks, Arts, and Community Services Commission approved the donated items from Dean which will be installed at the Bark Park at a later date. In addition, the Costa Mesa City Council presented Dean with a certificate of recognition for his efforts and dedication to the City of Costa Mesa and the Bark Park. Congratulations Dean!



Above: Dean Romine (center) with City Council members and City Manager in March 2020 prior to the pandemic

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Animal Care Services provides monthly statistics to track the animals entering the shelter, returning to their owners, transferring into the adoption center, and adoptions.

MARCH AND APRIL 2021 (03/01 - 04/30/21)

- Total impounds to shelter: 69
- Animals returned to owners: 24
- Animals transferred to adoption care: 35
- Total adoptions: 18

For more detailed statistics, please visit:
www.costamesaca.gov/pets

Love Your Dog, Love Your Park
TAKE THE LEAD...

Parks Make Life Better!

& SCOOP THE POOP!

COYOTE SAFETY

Tips to keep coyotes away:

- Do not leave small pets in the backyard unattended
- Feed your pets indoors and do not leave pet food outside
- Pick up fallen fruit from trees off of the ground
- Protect all water sources including pools

If you spot a coyote:

- Haze the coyote by making yourself big and loud
- Log onto the Coyote Cacher to report your encounter
- <https://ucanr.edu/sites/CoyoteCacher/>
- Email coyote@costamesaca.gov

Visit www.costamesaca.gov for more information.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Being a responsible pet owner not only includes providing the best care for your pet, but also ensuring you are picking up after your animals too. Dog waste is messy, smelly, and quite annoying if you step in it, but leaving dog waste on the ground actually harms the environment, wildlife, and impacts other dogs and humans.

Dog waste contains viruses, bacteria, roundworms, tapeworms, and other microbes that can be dispersed through lawn care, insects, pets, and wind. In fact, according to GreenPal, one gram of dog waste contains 23 million fecal bacteria.

So do your part and scoop the poop! Plus, it's the law.

ILLNESSES AND INFECTIONS DUE TO DOO-DOO:

<p>PROBLEMATIC PARASITES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WORMS* • COCCIDIA • GIARDIA* 	<p>SERIOUS SICKNESSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PARVOVIRUS • CORONAVIRUS 	<p>BAD BACTERIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SALMONELLA* • E. COLI* • CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS*
--	--	---

*CONDITIONS THAT CAN BE TRANSFERRED FROM CANINES TO HUMANS.
• CHILDREN, SENIORS, BABIES, AND PREGNANT WOMEN AT HIGHER RISK.

Image courtesy of GreenPal

PUPPY SOCIALIZATION

BY LINDA KWOUN, COMMITTEE MEMBER

Pet parents bring their puppy home, buy the right food, a cute bed, pee pads, and strive to be the best parent possible. However, pet parents should also remember to also include opportunities to socialize their puppy. The best time to begin socializing your young pup is during the first three months of your dog's life. This period is the prime window of opportunity for your puppy to adapt to new people, other animals, noises, visuals, smells, objects, etc.

Inadequate socialization during this period can increase the risk of behavioral problems later in life, such as, fear and/or aggression. "In fact, behavioral problems are the number one cause of relinquishment to shelters. Behavioral issues, not infectious diseases, are the number one cause of death for dogs under three years of age." --from AVSAB Position Statement on Puppy Socialization.

During the first three months of your puppy's life, your dog will not have been fully vaccinated and their immune system is still developing. However, because of the contribution of your puppy's maternal immunity and first set of vaccines, the risk of infection is relatively small, so long as pet parents expose their puppy to low-risk socialization opportunities. The benefits of early socialization outweigh the risk of infection.

Early socialization should include body handling (touching paws and mouth), sounds (vacuum, sirens, garbage truck, shouting), visual (bicycle, different size adults and children, other animals), scents (your puppy will explore their environment with their nose and mouth), different types of surfaces (tile floor, grass, sand), different places (outdoor mall, veterinarian office, car ride), and time alone in a safe location (crate, play pen).

In addition, check out your local puppy socialization classes that are offered in many locations, including Costa Mesa. Even after this initial socialization period, pet parents should continue regularly exposing their puppy to different environments. Such practice will help your pup develop their ability to cope with new stimuli with less stress and fear. For Costa Mesa dog classes, visit www.costamesaca.gov.



RESOURCES

Animal Care Services

(714) 754-5128

(714) 754-4918

Costa Mesa Animal Control

(714) 754-5674

Newport Center Animal Hospital (Shelter)

1333 Avocado, NB

(949) 447-5959

Hours: 10am - 5pm; Mon-Sat
Closed Sundays

Impounded Animals

www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals

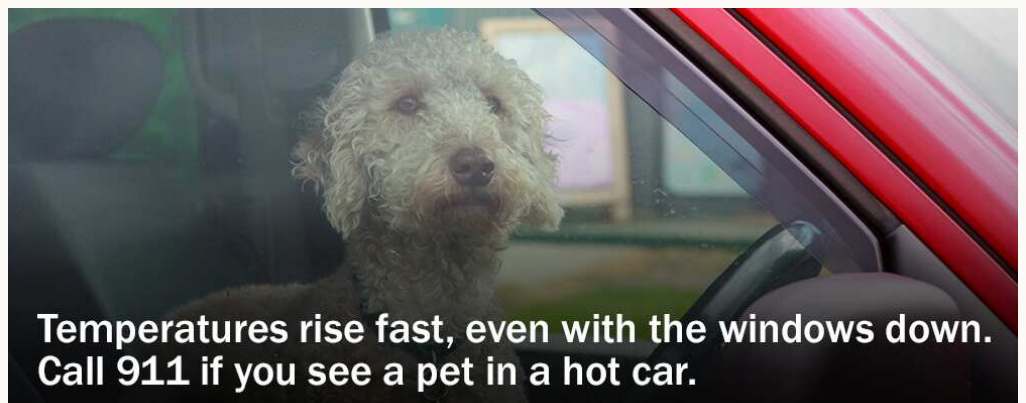
Adoptable Animals

www.costamesaca.gov/adoptableanimals

LOOKING TO DONATE?

Donating to assist in the well-being and care of Costa Mesa's sheltered and adoptable animals is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Donate your time by becoming a volunteer or foster caretaker with Priceless Pet Rescue. Visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org for more information on how to volunteer.
2. Purchase pet supplies through Priceless Pet Rescue's Chewy.com and Amazon wish lists or donate directly to their organization. For more information, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org/donate.
3. Make a monetary donation to the Costa Mesa Foundation for Animal Care Services online. Visit bit.ly/CMPetDonations to make an online donation.



Temperatures rise fast, even with the windows down.
Call 911 if you see a pet in a hot car.

#BeInformed

Ready 