**If I have a lost pet, where do I begin?**

Nobody knows your pet better than you. First

thing to do would begin your search and make

a call to the Animal Control Officer's office for assistance. If your pet does not return home

in what you feel is a reasonable amount of time,

begin to make flyers with information of your pet

on them. For example, your pet's description, a photo, its gender, breed, color, size, distinguishing features (nicks in the ears, scars or marks), identification tags and state if your pet has an implanted identification chip. With this information

on paper, make several copies and begin dropping them off at local veterinary clinics and animal shelters and/or perhaps at a few local businesses, which

allow free advertising.

**What do I need to do to license my dog?**

The owner or keeper of a dog must furnish proof

to the town clerk that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies. In addition, if the dog has been

spayed or neutered, the owner or keeper needs to furnish the town with the proper documentation.

**What does the Animal Control Officer do?**

The Animal Control Officer is responsible for

enforcing State Laws and local Ordinances

pertaining to the welfare and control of domestic, exotic and wild animals. The Animal Control Officer

is also considered the local Rabies Control

Authority and handles many wild animals, which

have been reported to be sick or injured.

**If a domestic, wild or exotic animal bites me, what should I do?**

The very first thing you should do is clean your wound(s) thoroughly and contact your physician immediately! If your physician is not available, we strongly advise that you visit the nearest

emergency room for treatment. Even with the smallest wounds, viruses and disease can be transmitted. If feasible, contact the Animal

Control Officer so that he/she can begin

attempting to locate the animal(s), which had

bitten you to either quarantine or bring to the

State Lab for rabies testing.

**I have been hearing all these stories about the West Nile Virus. What should I do if I find a deceased bird on my property?**

Bird surveillance activities are determined based on ongoing epidemiological findings. Reports of dead birds are taken via a toll-free West Nile Virus and EEE information line, 1-866-273-NILE (6453).

Recent national and local analyses suggest WNV dead bird testing is becoming less useful for early detection and evaluation of WNV risk. Most birds infected with EEE do not succumb to severe disease and no longer provide useful data for disease surveillance and response in NH.

For these reasons, wild bird testing will not occur on a regular basis.

In some circumstances, dead birds may be tested for WNV and EEE if the situation warrants (e.g., unusual large die-offs without a known cause). At the time of report, the caller will be informed if the reported bird is to be tested, how to safely handle the dead bird to minimize contact, and how to arrange for delivery. Otherwise the caller will be informed of proper disposal procedures for the dead bird.

Information regarding dead bird handling and submitting dead birds for testing is available at: http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/DHHS/CDCS/West+Nile+Virus/wnv-birds.htm

***Can I leave my dog/cat in my car while I quickly run into the store?***

It is not safe to leave your pet in a vehicle. The temperature inside a vehicle is always different than the outside temperature. Something can always happen to delay you from getting back to the vehicle in a timely manner. DON'T RISK YOUR PET'S LIFE. Be aware that it is illegal to leave your vehicle unattended with the engine running. It is also illegal to leave a pet inside a car when the temperature can cause it harm. Keep your pet safe and healthy and keep yourself out of trouble by leaving them at home.

**What is Animal Abuse?**

There are different types of animal abuse. Simply depriving your pet of sufficient shelter, food, water or medical treatment is Illegal! These are forms of neglect, which could eventually lead to the pet owner's arrest. There are many forms of animal abuse and not all are easy to detect. How about the dog, which is being left out all day in the cold, New England weather? Not all animals are able to live outdoors and chances are there is an animal being abused which lives close to you.

**If I suspect that someone is abusing their pet, whom should I tell and can I remain anonymous?**

Many animals continue to be abused each year because witnesses are afraid to come forward. Anytime you or someone you know suspects animal abuse, all you have to do is call the Animal Control Officer at (603) 608-9099. Please leave a detailed description of abuse and the location of the animal. If you would like to leave your name and address that would be extremely helpful but you are not obligated to do so.

**Is it illegal for someone to leave the scene without reporting to a Law Enforcement Agency that they have hit a domestic dog?**

Yes, this is a misdemeanor and the person responsible could be arrested.

**Are there other organizations in the area that can assist me with animal related matters?**

Yes, the N.H.S.P.C.A., located in Stratham is probably the closest to the Northwood area. They are located off of Rt. 108 in Stratham, N.H. and have a tremendous amount of information to assist the public with their concerns pertaining to animals. They can be reached at (603) 772-2921 or check out their web site at [**www.nhspca.org**](http://www.nhspca.org).

**Does my cat need a rabies shot?**

Yes. All dogs, cats and ferrets require a rabies

Vaccine

## a great place to work?

* Dynamic people
* Team-oriented environment
* Exciting location
* Excellent benefits
* Competitive salaries
* Opportunity for advancement