



## Animal Control Division

### Our Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide efficient and quality service to the citizens of Doña Ana County by providing protection for them and their property from the dangers and nuisances caused by stray animals, to protect pets from the cruelty they may face from irresponsible citizens, and to educate the public in the responsibilities of pet ownership, animal control, care, and welfare.

### Contact Us:

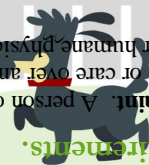
**Central Dispatch:**  
1-800-260-0911

**Our Offices:**  
575-525-8846  
2024 E. Griggs  
Las Cruces, NM 88001

<http://donaanacounty.org/animal/>



### The Law: Restraint Requirements.



**Physical Restraint.** A person owning or having charge, custody, or care over an animal shall keep the animal under humane physical restraint at all times.

**Owner's Premises.** A person owning or having charge, custody, or care over an animal on his or her premises shall restrain the animal either by a secure enclosure or by immediate control.

All pens, kennels, stalls, corrals, or other enclosures used to restrain an animal shall be continuously maintained with preservatives, fasteners, and other materials to prevent deterioration and animal escape. Substantial and acceptable locking or latching devices shall be installed on all gates and doors to animal enclosures in such a manner as to be inaccessible to animals and small children in order to prevent animal escape and unauthorized entry.

**Public Premises.** A person owning or having charge, custody, or care over an animal off of his or her premises shall keep the animal under immediate control.

A leash used to restrain an animal shall be of suitable length so as to enable the handler to maintain control of the animal under the specific circumstances.

A person shall not carry an animal in or upon any vehicle in a cruel, inhumane, or unsafe manner. Animals carried in the open bed of a vehicle shall be crated or restrained upon a non-slick surface and in a manner that prevents the animal from jumping out of the vehicle.

For the Complete Ordinance please visit:

<http://donaanacounty.org/animal/>



# Keep Them Safe!

## Provide your Dog with a Safe and Secure Enclosure!

We recommend that you keep your dog indoors, unless you're present to supervise his time outside. Dogs are "**pack animals**" and need to socialize with you and the world around them.

If there are times when you must leave your dog outside, keep him/her in a securely fenced yard to prevent him/her from straying.

You may also consider providing him/her with a covered dog "run" or pen with a doghouse inside. This is a good alternative if you're unable to fence your yard, or if your dog is apt to escape from your yard by jumping the fence.

We don't recommend that you chain or tie your dog up to prevent him/her from wandering off. A chained or tied up dog is likely to become frustrated, which could lead to destructive and/or aggressive behavior. He/she could also become entangled in his/her chain, rope, or leash, and as a result, severely injure himself/herself.



## Provide your Dog with Proper Shelter!

In addition to safe confinement, dogs need adequate shelter from the elements. Dogs kept outside may be unintentionally exposed to bitter cold temperatures in the winter and scorching heat in the summer. To protect your dog from harsh weather, provide a well-constructed doghouse. However, keep in mind that some breeds with very long or short coats cannot tolerate extreme outside temperatures even when provided with proper shelter. Also remember that if you have more than one dog, you need to provide a doghouse for each one.

To provide your dog with a comfortable doghouse, consider these suggestions:

- 🐾 The house should be large enough to allow the dog to stand up and turn around comfortably, but small enough to enable the dog to retain body heat.
- 🐾 The house should have a slanted, waterproof roof to allow rainwater to run off.
- 🐾 If the doghouse is made of wood, it should be raised off the ground at least two inches to prevent the floor from rotting.
- 🐾 The door should be just large enough for your dog to enter easily.
- 🐾 During the winter months, to protect your dog from cold wind,

the door should be covered by a flexible plastic flap—such as a floor runner that doesn't have spikes on one side. A piece of carpet can work in a pinch, but it can get wet and freeze.

- 🐾 Clean, dry bedding such as hay, straw, or cedar shavings should be provided. The bedding should be changed weekly to prevent mold and to keep the doghouse sanitary.
- 🐾 In warmer months, the dog should also be provided with shade such as a tree or tarp. A doghouse in direct sun becomes an oven and will not keep a dog cool.
- 🐾 Finally, anytime your dog is kept outside, be sure to provide fresh water in a tip-proof bowl or large bucket. Make sure the water doesn't freeze during colder months.



*Educational material for this flier was obtained from the HSUS at:*

***<http://www.hsus.org/>***

*And from the Dumb Friends League*

***at: <http://www.ddfl.org/>***