

CHAPTER 4 – ANIMALS

Sec. 4-31. Establishment of pounds; impounding and disposing of dogs and cats; reclaiming impounded dogs and cats; pound fees.¹

(a) Any stray dog shall be impounded. All dogs and cats impounded shall be given proper care and maintenance.

(b) Each stray dog or any cat impounded shall be kept and maintained at the pound for a minimum of seventy-two (72) hours unless claimed by its owner.

(c) Prior to release of a stray dog or cat from the pound for purchase by any person, the dog or cat shall be:

(1) surgically spayed or neutered.

(2) the purchasing party signs an agreement with the pound to have the dog or cat spayed or neutered within thirty days after purchase or before the dog or cat is sexually mature and deposits with the pound the amount determined by the pound to be sufficient to assure sterilization. Upon presentation of a statement by a veterinarian that the dog or cat has been spayed or neutered, the deposit shall be refunded.

(d) The pound may use any unrefunded deposits for any of the purposes provided in A.R.S. §11-1022.C.

(e) Any person may purchase an impounded dog or cat upon expiration of the impoundment period, provided such person pays all pound fees and complies with the licensing, vaccinating, and sterilization provisions of this chapter. If the dog or cat is not claimed within the impoundment period, the enforcement agent shall take possession and may place the dog or cat for sale or may dispose of the dog or cat in a humane manner. If the dog or cat is to be used for medical research, no license or vaccination shall be required. The enforcement agent may destroy impounded, sick or injured dogs or cats whenever necessary to prevent the dog or cat from suffering or to prevent the spread of disease.

(c) Any impounded licensed dog or any cat may be reclaimed by its owner or such owner's agent provided that the person reclaiming the dog or cat furnishes proof of right to do so and pays all pound fees. If the dog or cat is not reclaimed within the impoundment period, the enforcement agent shall take possession and may place the dog or cat for sale or may dispose of the dog or cat in a humane manner. Any person purchasing such a dog or cat shall pay all pound fees.

(Code 1977, § 7-1-13)

(Ord. No. 96-31, 6/4/96, Amended)

State law reference(s) -- Similar provisions, A.R.S. § 11-1013.

¹Cross reference(s)--Injuring police dogs, § 13-80.