

Rescue



Enforce



Educate



2021 SECOND QUARTER NEWSLETTER

SECOND QUARTER IN REVIEW

Happy July and happy summertime to our wonderful community! The second quarter of 2021 provided much more breathing room for our staff and shelter than the first quarter. One, sometimes challenging, thing about our job is that the pace or busyness of it is unpredictable. For example, our shelter could go a whole week without picking up a single dog, and then the following week we could pick up 8-10 dogs. Typically, we can predict a rush of intakes and calls when the weather starts warming up in late April to early May but that did not prove to be the case this year. Our shelter was even empty at one point during that time. However, once the end of May came around, we started picking up again and have been busy ever since. We have begun kennel inspections for a portion of the county's registered low volume dog breeders and have been following up with delinquent dog license accounts. These two duties keep us busy on the road. With the hot weather, the department has also started receiving "dog in hot car" complaints.

This quarter we also introduced a new crew of volunteers to the program and let us just say, they have been phenomenal. Most days are covered by a volunteer, and at one point there was no room for volunteers trying to pick up extra days. The volunteer program has benefited the dogs and the staff greatly. When volunteers come in regularly, our staff does not have to feel bad if they were too busy to get the dogs out of their kennels that day. We can rest easy knowing the dogs' physical and interactive needs are being cared for by awesome people.

This quarter our shelter saw 88 dogs come in via stray and owner surrender. No dogs were euthanized this quarter. We saw 85 dogs find their homes via return to owner, adoption, and rescues. Once again, our return to owner rate was higher than our adoption rate. We ended the quarter with 32 adoptions and 43 dogs happily returned to their owners. Compared to last quarter, the number of intakes was decreased slightly, but not by much. It appears things were just more spread out this quarter compared to last. Things were also less busy on the road. Our officers handled 43 complaints, with dogs running at large topping the list. They also had approximately 43 calls to service. We did impound 63 strays running at large, which

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The Pawsative Corner



RTF'S (RETURN TO OWNER IN FIELD) ARE HAPPENING MORE FREQUENTLY AS OFFICERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ARE FINDING MORE DOGS WEARING A CURRENT DOG LICENSE.

is only 8 less than last quarter. One great thing that continues to happen and has been happening over the last several years is that dogs are found wearing a current license more and more frequently and are returned to their owners by the public or our staff without ever coming to the shelter. These types of calls continue to increase which means people are putting their dog tags where they are legally required to be. It should be noted that we do monitor these calls on the dog owners' accounts and address frequent at large issues with the dog owner.

PREPARE, BE RESPONSIBLE, AND HAVE FUN

Sweet summertime is upon us! We have been waiting a while for this pawsatively beautiful weather. With people getting vaccinated for COVID-19 and mask mandates being removed, this summer looks like it will be closer to normal. For humans, summertime is a time of parties, barbecues, swimming, and vacations. In today's day and age, summertime for our dogs is much of the same. If you plan to vacation with your dog or dogs in Ohio, here are some important things to remember so you can get the most out of your vacations and avoid any unpleasant catastrophes or run-ins with local dog wardens or animal control.



First and foremost, as a dog owner, it is your responsibility to make sure you are following all of Ohio's dog laws. You need to make sure your dog is properly licensed, and that license is always displayed on the dog. Dog licensing is a law in Ohio. Any dog that is 3 months of age or older is required to have a dog license. Even if you are coming from another county our officers expect to see a current 2021 dog license. This will also allow our officers to return the dog to you if it were to run away and become lost.



If you are camping with your dog, it is extremely important that you realize just because your campground does not have a leash rule in place does not mean your dog can roam freely. As a dog owner you are still expected to follow Ohio's dog confinement and control laws under sections 955.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. In brief you are required to keep your dog confined to your property and under reasonable control. If your dog is visiting the neighbor's campsite and begging for food or just being friendly it is not under reasonable control. In 2018, at one of our campsites in Holmes County, a dog was allowed to roam freely and ended up at a neighboring lot who also had a dog. A fight ensued and two people ended up getting bit trying to separate the dogs. Each year the Dog Warden's Department investigates dog bites and other incidents at local campgrounds like this one. In 2020, a camper was playing ball with his dog while it was off leash and the dog ended up biting an

individual while it was loose. The dog was not under reasonable control at the time the biting incident took place. When a dog bites a human, Ohio law requires that dog not leave the county that the bite occurred in until a 10-day rabies quarantine is completed. If you are from out of town and camping for the weekend and your dog bites someone, you can see how that might be an inconvenience.

That leads us to the next tip or suggestion. If your dog is dog aggressive or people aggressive, it is probably wise to not take that dog on vacation with you if you plan to be around people or plan on going to public places. You can be the most responsible pet owner on the planet, but what your fellow humans do is out of your control. In 2019 a

camper who had a small chihuahua type dog on a leash approached some fellow campers while they were on their lot. These campers had a large black and white husky tied to their RV. As camper #1 approached the lot, the husky became aggressive towards the small dog and broke its tie out in an attempt to get at it. What happened next was not a pretty scene. The husky mauled the small dog and put that dog in an emergency clinic for several days. Realistically, the small dog owner should have recognized the husky's behavior and left the scene immediately.

Believe it or not, this last tip may seem like common sense, but the Dog Warden's Department responds to calls each summer. **DON'T LEAVE YOUR DOG IN A CAR WHEN IT IS HOT OUTSIDE.** Prepare and plan your day out. Call businesses to see if they allow pets. In just minutes, your car can become extremely hot and your dog could die of heat exhaustion, or you could come out to find your dog has been seized by our department and that you may face animal cruelty charges. Already in 2021, several people in Ohio are facing animal cruelty charges after leaving their dogs in their vehicle when it was too hot. Vacation is supposed to be fun and enjoyable for all. If you are coming to Holmes County, plan to be responsible and have the best time!

CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

How long does it take for a car to get HOT?

Outside Temp (F)	VEHICLE TEMPERATURE	
	10mins	30mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Dogs Die EVERY SUMMER
In minutes your car temps are deadly!

VeterinaryClinic.com

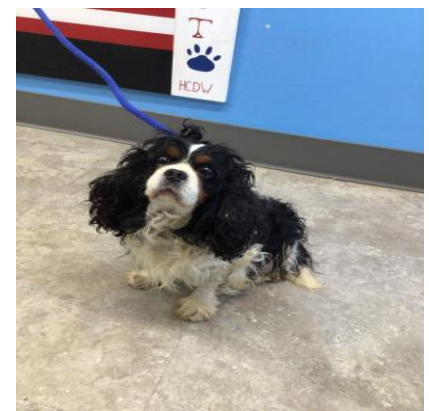
WHY WOULD YOU SEND IT TO RESCUE!?

Caller: “Hi! I saw that you have a small female poodle at the shelter. I would like to adopt her. What do I need to do?”

Dog Warden: “Yes, we do have a poodle here, but we are sending her to a rescue.”

Caller: “Why would you do that? I am telling you I would adopt her.”

Have you ever found yourself on the caller's end of this conversation when calling our facility about a dog that we took in? This often frustrates people. Trust me, we understand why. What most people do not see with the photo on social media is the physical and mental condition of the dog. We are proud to partner with several great rescues who help us out many times each year. When we send dogs to rescue, we are not trying to send all the good ones away from Holmes County, but in fact we are thinking more about the dog and its needs. Some dogs have medical conditions or injuries that need addressed and may require rehabilitation. When we send those dogs to trusted rescues, we are making sure those issues will be addressed prior to adoption. Some dogs need serious socialization prior to getting adopted. The best place for them to get that is a foster family with one of our rescues. The rescues our shelter works with have been so good to us in taking dogs with big medical needs. On occasion we will send these rescues a good dog that will not stress their bank accounts as a way of saying thank you! We take pride in serving Holmes County residents and love adopting our dogs to Holmes County residents, however there are just some situations where a dog has special circumstances. If you do not think we are serious, just look at the numbers. In 2015, our shelter transferred 123 dogs to rescues, in 2016 it dropped all the way down to 69, and in 2018 our shelter only transferred 43 dogs to rescues. That number has stayed around the 40 mark for several years. Our shelter also works with rescues on placing dogs that have sat at our shelter for lengthy period of time.



John Dog Jovi was a cavalier that came in as a stray with a serious dental condition. He was sent to rescue and ended up having several other medical conditions.

Puppy Mills? Dog Breeders? What is our opinion?

It is no secret that Holmes County is notorious for individuals who breed and sell dogs. As officers who deal with all things dog in Holmes County, we often get the question “How do you feel about all the puppy mills”. Here is an attempt to answer that question. How our officers view the dog breeding industry is irrelevant. Our officers will not share their personal opinions. We are responsible for enforcing Ohio Laws as they are written and as they pertain to dogs and the welfare of the dogs. As public servants our department serves the dog breeders as much as we serve the puppy buyers and the persons concerned about the dogs. We respond to welfare complaints relating to kennels in a timely and professional manner. We assist the kennel operators in becoming compliant with Ohio law and hold them accountable if they are not in compliance. We expect breeders to treat their dogs humanely and in accordance with Ohio Revised Code. We work to bring education to the dog breeding industry to improve the lives of the dogs in their care by being proactive. For more information on filing a complaint, you can visit our website at www.holmescountydogwarden.com.

On another note, if you want a pure-bred dog or a designer breed dog and you spend the extra money to purchase one from a breeder, does that make you a bad person? Absolutely not! Although we want you to adopt from your local shelter, pure bred dogs, let alone puppies rarely come through a shelter. If pure bred puppies do come through the system, they are older and need some serious training. Just remember in any business or profession, you will have bad apples and that is just a reality. When purchasing a puppy from a breeder, make sure it is a responsible breeder. A responsible breeder is knowledgeable about the breed they are selling. They will establish a relationship with you as the customer and happily answer any questions you might have. Their facility will be neat and clean, and dogs will be housed with proper shelter, food, and water. Their dogs will be well socialized and healthy. They will have vet records for all their puppies before they are sold, and they will gladly show you the parents if they are available. Many times, breeders will have names for their dogs and can tell you the history of each one. Their dogs will have access to veterinary care. Finally, responsible breeders will be properly registered with the Holmes County Auditor's Office, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (if required to) and the United States Department of Agriculture (if required to).

SITUATIONS TO AVOID

1. Meeting at an undisclosed location to complete the sale.
2. Unable to answer or dodging your questions.
3. Unable to provide vet records or health certificate for puppy.
4. Person knows little about the puppy they are selling.
5. Unwilling to show at least one of the parents or point you in the direction of the parents.
6. No current breeding license of any kind.

It is important to note that not all of these are illegal. For more information on this please visit www.holmescountydogwarden.com

Ohio Revised Code Spotlight

O.R.C 955.10

No owner of a dog, except a dog constantly confined to a dog kennel registered under this chapter or one licensed under Chapter 956. of the Revised Code, shall fail to require the dog to wear, at all times, a valid tag issued in connection with a certificate of registration. A dog found not wearing at any time a valid tag shall be prima-facie evidence of lack of registration and shall subject any dog found not wearing such a tag to impounding, sale, or destruction.

Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week

With the month of April came ACOAW. We would like to thank all the wonderful folks who said thank you and dropped off some goodies at the shelter. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. Each year on the first full week of April, animal control officers are recognized for the vital role and work they do in their communities. Individuals working in the field wear many hats in a single day and often do not get rewarded for a job well done. Imagine a world where there is no Animal Control Officer to pick up stray dogs. We see roughly 200-300 each year. While running loose, those dogs are exposed to diseases such as rabies. Imagine you had no one to call if your neighbor's dog was constantly on your property...and is aggressive, and it bit you? Imagine needing to rehome your dog and not having a solution. By now you are picturing a world full of rabid wild dogs and dogs out of control all over the county. These places do exist, and they are called third world countries.



COMMUNITY



Moose Week at the Ugly Bunny



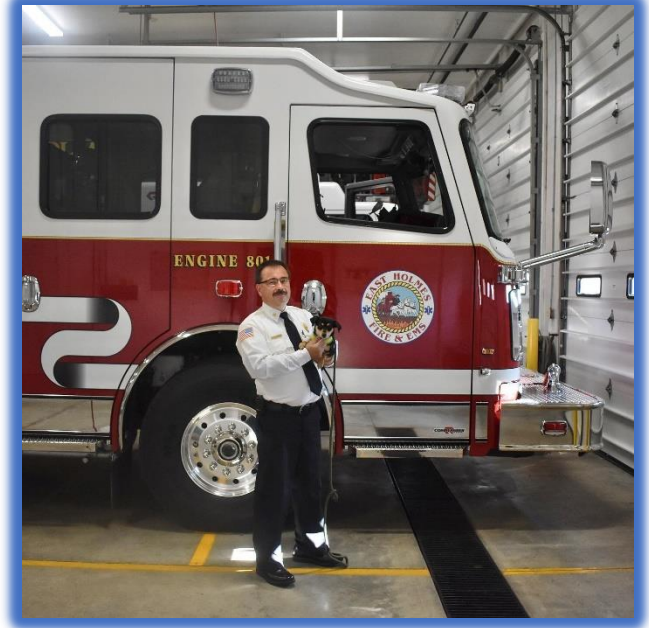
In April of 2021, the Ugly Bunny Winery in Loudonville, Ohio hosted a fundraiser for the Holmes County Dog Warden's Department and the Holmes County Humane Society in honor of Moose, a beloved dog that the business owners lost. During the week of March 29- April 3, they donated 10% of their sales to

both agencies and in addition they set out a donation jar. The Dog Warden's Department received \$830.00 for its medical fund thanks to Moose and the crew at Ugly Bunny. But wait...that's not even the coolest part! The cute puppy pictured in the photo is named Vino and is the new Ugly Bunny Winery dog, and it all happened thanks to Moose week. One of our adopted dogs had a litter of puppies after being adopted, and her adopter saw Moose Week on social media. She reached out to the owner of The Ugly Bunny Winery to see if they would be interested in having the last puppy in honor of Moose. The rest is history.



LIGHT UP ADOPTIONS 2021

Local Law Enforcement and First Responders play a vital role in keeping our communities safe and healthy. This summer they are going even further and helping our shelter promote adoptions by sponsoring adoption fees for our homeless dogs. Each week there is a sponsor from one of our local agencies. We do not have enough agencies to cover the entire summer, but we had a great turn out and have been rolling through adoptions. Make sure to thank those agencies that participated. Last quarter, we had Ohio Highway Patrol Wooster Post and East Holmes Fire and EMS participate. Still lined up for next quarter are Millersburg Police Department, Holmes District One Fire, and ODNR Wildlife Officer Jeremy Carter.



Landscaping Project

Thank you, Buckeye 4-H group, for a job well done on our flower beds. As a service project, Buckeye 4-H group planted our new flower beds courtesy of Grasshopper Group. We are incredibly pleased with our landscaping at the shelter.



Educational Opportunities

It's no myth that the future of our world is in the hands of our youth. We love to provide educational opportunities on the role that Dog Wardens play in their communities and responsible pet ownership. We even touch on topics like dog bite prevention. On May 15, 2021, Deputy Schlauch and Volunteer Dog Walker Darlene Miller gave the Killbuck Handy Helpers an educational tour of the Dog Shelter explaining its role in the community. If you would like to schedule an educational opportunity, please contact the Dog Warden's Department at 330-674-6301 or email us holmescountydogwarden@gmail.com



Name: _____

Date: _____

License UP!

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License up Dog owner Reunite Shelter funding
 State law

WIN A FREE T-SHIRT

Submit to be entered into the drawing



- Complete the crossword puzzle and return it to the Holmes County Dog Warden's Department by October 1, 2021.
- Answer the questions below.
- Like our Facebook Page

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

How would you rate this newsletter?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (circle one)

What did you enjoy reading the most?



To sign up for our newsletter each quarter please email us at holmescountydogwarden@gmail.com