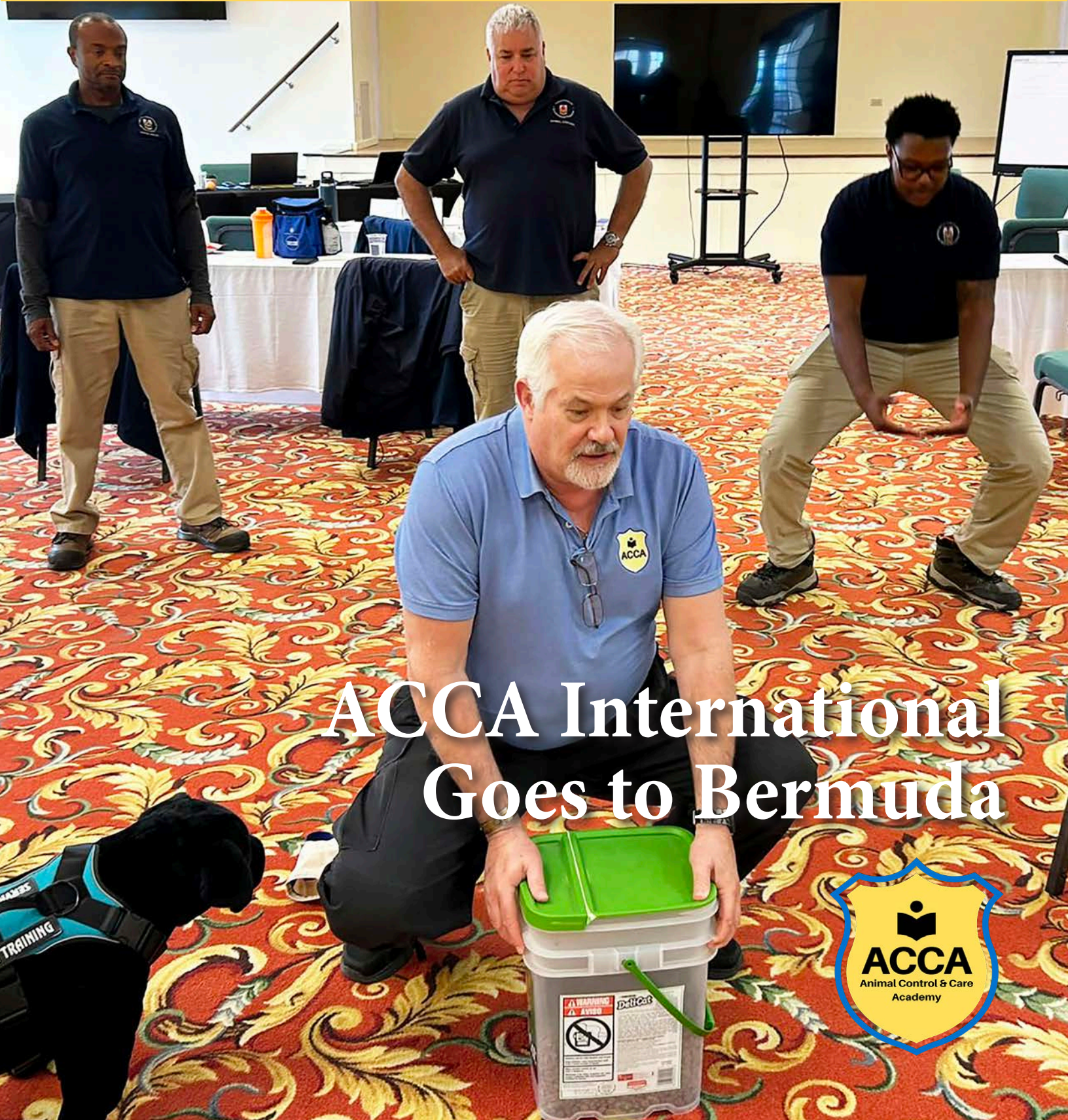


April 2024

The ACO Voice

A Monthly Magazine from the Animal Control & Care Academy ■ The Only Monthly Publication Dedicated to Animal Control



ACCA International Goes to Bermuda



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Notes from our CEO...

We are well into 2024, but we need to remind everyone to update our vendor information for Animal Control and Care Academy with your organization. Our remittance address and federal tax ID number have changed. If you need an updated W9, please email us at mkumpf@accacademy.net to receive the current form.

As always, thank you to all of our students and animal control professionals nationwide and now internationally. This year is only going to get better with more exciting news and programs.

Thanks and stay safe!

Mark Kumpf, CAWA

CEO / Master Instructor ACCA



Sleeping with the Fishes? No... Feeding the Stingrays!

Mark, JT, and Bermuda Senior Veterinary Officer Dr. Jonathan Nisbett learned how to feed stingrays and the variety of fish in the island's aquarium during ACCA's recent trip to Bermuda. Above, Mark feeds a stingray named Martha.

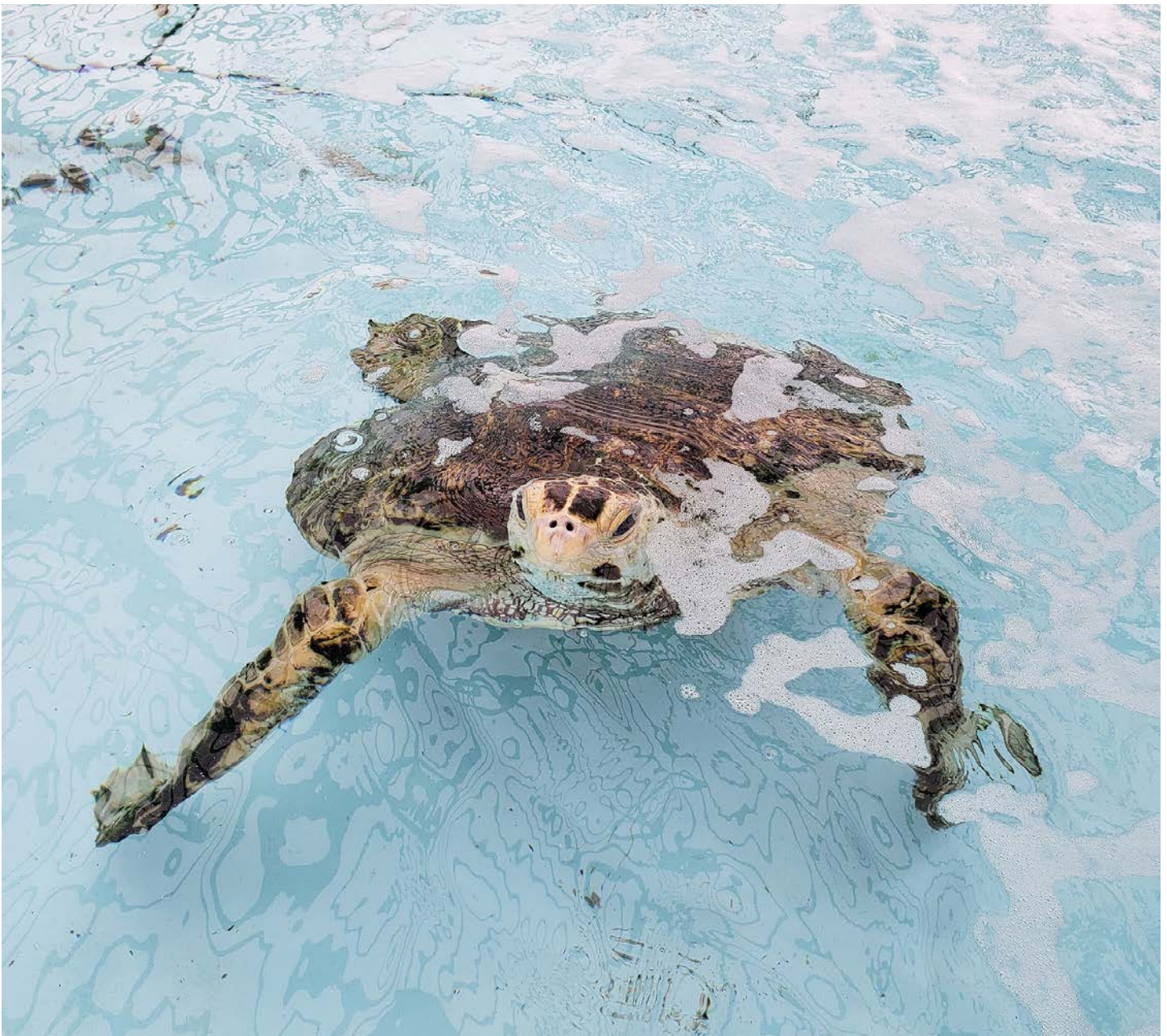
ACCA Travels to Bermuda

ACCA International Conducts Training for Bermuda's Animal Wardens

March 9 through 16, 2024, ACCA Master Instructor Mark Kumpf and Senior Instructor JT Taylor traveled to Bermuda to provide a week of training to Bermuda's animal wardens and others. Met by Dr. Jonathan Nisbett, chief veterinary officer for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Mark and

JT were whisked through entry into the British colony and transported to the resort where the training would take place. Scheduled to cover a variety of topics and several individual certifications during the week-long training, Mark and JT spent Sunday on a unique tour of the island.

Visiting the Bermuda Aquarium, Museum



Sick Sea Turtle on the Road to Health and a Return to the Sea

Locally found sick or injured marine life are brought to the Bermuda Aquarium for treatment and care until they are rehabilitated and returned to the sea.

and Zoo, referred to as BAMZ, Mark and JT traded animal handling techniques with the staff of animal care providers. Then they, along with Dr. Nisbett, were given the opportunity to learn about marine life around the islands and learn about the rescue and rehabilitation of sea turtles found sick on the shores of the island, along with a variety of other sea life being rehabilitated before being returned to the sea. They also joined one of the BAMZ staff in hand feeding grouper, parrot fish, sharks, and stingrays.

On Monday, the training began, and according to ACCA CEO Mark Kumpf, the entire Animal Warden Division received training and a number of specialty certifications, to include being the first to receive ACCA's Humane Euthanasia Certification training. Other training throughout the week included safe animal handling, dangerous dog attack and bite investigations, and advanced animal control cruelty investigations. Certifications were earned by the



Two-Man Lifting and Loading of an Animate Object
Bermudan Animal Control Officer Sean Pedro and Chief Veterinary Officer Jonathan Nisbett practice a two-man lifting and loading technique before performing their practical skills testing during Lifting and Loading Certification training in April.

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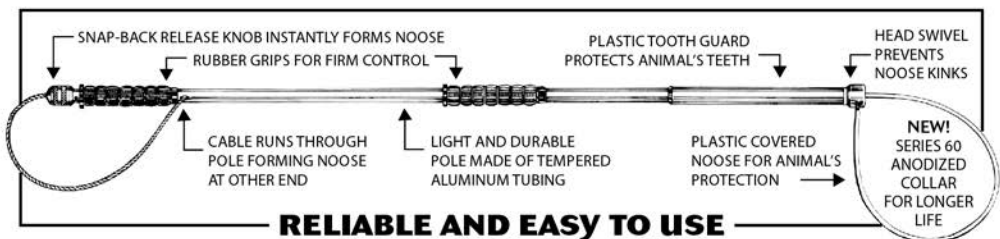


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animal wardens for Lifting and Loading; Thermometry in Animal Cruelty Cases; and Bite Stick.

The wardens attended “The Link for Animal Services,” a class that included information on recognizing child abuse, domestic violence, and elder abuse, while emphasizing the relationship to animal cruelty. Sarah D’Alessio, adult protective services manager with the Ministry of Youth, Social Development and Seniors, also attended training. This class highlighted the interdepartmental cooperative approach required to address incidents of domestic violence. Dr Nisbett joined his animal wardens for the week-long event as well.

“I appreciated the LINK training and the inclusion of another agency that would see the same social dysfunction from a different perspective,” Nisbett said. “ACOs will be seeing and [be] included amongst the agencies that advocate for the vulnerable beings in our community: animals, children, spouses, elderly, and disabled persons. It was great to establish that vital connection between agencies.”

Dr Nisbett added that this training is most important for any new ACO. He said that even experienced ACOs could learn from colleagues’ and other agencies’ feedback and experience. He pointed out that many of the documentation tools needed have already been designed and said that

ACCA is becoming the resource and avenue to connect animal control agencies and avoid the need to ‘re-invent the wheel.’

Nisbett explained that the Animal Warden Division consisted of only four persons: one head animal warden, and three assistant animal wardens. He said the head animal warden has nearly 30 years’ experience, but the remaining officers have less than two years’ experience.

“With such a small team, we found it very difficult to conduct formal, proper, and organized training of new staff while maintaining a kennel and offering service to the public,” Nisbett said. “The assistant wardens had previously received only on-the-job training, largely in response to whatever situation they were facing. We were seeking more formal and practical training, away from the distractions of ringing telephones and pagers; training that spoke towards real-world occurrences; training that spoke to the whys of what we do; and training that came from broad experiences. I wanted training from a new perspective to ensure that what we had taught [them] was current, correct and acceptable.”

Dr Nisbett went on to say he had also sought bite stick training from certified instructors, so that when he and the animal wardens receive their certification, they would have evidence to con-



Explaining the Link Between Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse

ACCA Master Instructor and CEO Mark Kumpf explained the correlation between domestic violence, adult, senior and child abuse, and animal abuse to Bermudan government officials and ACOs in April.



Watch Your Fingers When You're Face to Face With the Sharks

JT learned how to safely feed the four sharks on display at the Bermuda Aquarium, and later fed the grouper, parrot fish, and other smaller fish that shared the sharks domain while visiting Bermuda to provide the island's animal control staff with training.

vey to the Bermuda Police Service that the wardens are properly trained in the appropriate use of the tool. He explained that this would also be the qualifications which supported their request to the Governor of Bermuda to confirm the legal authority for the animal wardens to carry bite sticks in the course of their duties.

“We are most grateful for the training Mark Kumpf and JT Taylor of Animal Control and Care Academy provided,” Nisbett said. “The high-quality instruction, which included slides, handouts, speaking and practice tools, was efficient. The interaction between the instructor and students was open and direct, so we learned and had all our questions or concerns addressed. This experience enabled our wardens to learn new skills and insights.”

While most ACCA training is based on the American Criminal Justice System and Bermuda is under the British Common Law System of Justice, JT Taylor was able to draw the correlations between the two similar but different systems during his presentation on basic investigation and due process.

“There was an exciting exchange of ideas and judicial process between the US criminal justice and the Bermuda justice system,” Taylor said. “While most of the legal tenets of law are the same,

there are some differences in process and procedure, which made for great discussion. I believe everyone, myself included, learned a lot.”

With humane euthanasia practical skills testing being only a half day of training, Taylor provided an additional, unscheduled class on animal attack investigations. He said he decided to offer the class based on the questions and cases situations shared by the animal wardens during the basic investiga-

tions class. He said the wardens seemed to benefit from learning about the technical differences between a dog’s posturing, attacking or biting, as well as some of the basic forensics involved in determining scratches from bites and forensically tying the wound to a particular dog.

Nisbett said the training offered met and exceeded his goals and left him and the animal wardens wanting more. He said he recognized



Let’s Get Physical!

Among other certifications, Bermuda’s animal control officers trained in the use of an extendable baton as a defensive weapon against both human and animal attackers. In addition to the written exam, all participants completed a practical skills testing, which culminated in a self-defense exercise in which students had to defend themselves against one, two or three human “attackers” as well as an attacking dog.

that there are many areas in which they, as an organization, could improve their operations in the field and especially within their kennel operation. He said he looked forward to offering his wardens ACCA's Advanced ACO training; more on animal attack investigations and reporting, and more on shelter operations.

According to Kumpf, the wardens were enthusiastic about the enhanced training and demonstrated exemplary performance throughout the week. *The Bermudan Royal Gazette* newspaper featured an article highlighting the training and the future emphasis on expanded animal services for the island. ACCA is in preliminary discussions to team up with the Bermuda agencies to host an international animal services training summit in 2025.



Monkeying Around

Mark Kumpf was able to get up close and personal with a variety of animals at the Bermuda Aquarium Museum and Zoo.



Sharing the Tricks of the Trade

Mark Kumpf and JT Taylor trained with the animal care providers at the Bermuda Aquarium, Natural History Museum and Zoo (BAMZ), learning about sea life handling and sharing exotic animal handling techniques.

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“The ACO Voice”

2024 Advertising Rates

"The ACO Voice" is an electronic magazine that is published 12 times each year by the Animal Control & Care Academy to provide information of interest to Animal Control Officers. Advertising is provided on a space-available basis.

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Available ad sizes are: Full Page (7½" x 10") and Half Page (7½" x 5")

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For more information or to place an advertisement, please contact:

Mark Kumpf at mkumpf@accacademy.net or call 937-825-6709.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

For a registration form, visit www.accacademy.net or call 937-825-6709.

Chemical Immobilization Certification • Hosted by the Springfield - Greene County Health Dept.

April 19, 2024 • Springfield, Missouri

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals • Hosted by the Holmes County Dog Warden

April 22-23, 2024 • Holmesville, Ohio

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Baton/Bitestick Certification; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by the Plattsmouth Police Department

April 29 - May 2, 2024 • Plattsmouth, Nebraska

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Executing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Chemical Immobilization Certification • Hosted by the Alabama Animal Control Association

May 7, 2024 • Prichard, Alabama

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

Chemical Immobilization Certification • Hosted by White County Animal Control

May 9, 2024 • Cleveland, Georgia

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by Jefferson County Animal Control

May 20-23, 2024 • Kearneysville, West Virginia

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Execut-

ing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification • Hosted by Marana Animal Services
June 3-6, 2024 • Marana, Arizona

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Laws and Enforcement Procedures; Interpersonal Communication; Officer Safety and Protection; Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Evidence Law and Collection; Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing; Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals • Hosted by Marana Animal Services
June 7, 2024 • Marana, Arizona

Schedule of Training

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Baton/Bitestick Certification; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification • Hosted by the Horse Plus Humane Society
June 10-13, 2024 • Hohenwald, Tennessee

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Laws and Enforcement Procedures; Interpersonal Communication; Officer Safety and Protection; Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Evidence Law and Collection; Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing; Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment

Shelter Technician Certification • Hosted by the Springfield - Greene County Health Department
June 17-19, 2024 • Springfield, Missouri

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Care in a Sheltering Environment; Animal Disposition Options; Animal Identification: Breed and Description; Animal Shelter Design and Operations; Animal Shelter Record-Keeping; Canine and Feline Behaviors and Assessments; Disease Exposures in a Sheltering Environment; Emergency Animal Sheltering; Proactive Animal Sheltering

Advanced ACO Certification Course • Hosted by the Horse Plus Humane Society
July 29 - August 1, 2024 • Hohenwald, Tennessee

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Crime Scene Photography, Videography and Sketching; Animal Hoarding Investigations; Illegal Animal Fighting; Livestock and Exotics Cases; Obtaining and Executing Search Warrants; Officer Safety in the Field; Proactive Animal Control; Using Forensics in Animal Cruelty Investigations

Training Course for Animal Control Professionals • Hosted by the Springfield - Greene County Health Department
September 9-11, 2024 • Springfield, Missouri

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment; Officer Safety and Protection; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification; Baton/Bitestick Certification

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Canine Behavior and Aggressive Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture and Restraint Equipment; Officer Safety and Protection; Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training Certification; Baton/Bitestick Certification

Comprehensive Animal Management Certification • Hosted by the Horse Plus Humane Society
September 23-25, 2024 • Hohenwald, Tennessee

Schedule of Training

Each Day – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM / 1 Hour Lunch

The course is comprised of the following blocks of instruction:

Advanced Case Supervision; Basic Budget Planning; Disciplinary Investigations; Equipment, Vehicles and Operational Needs; Evaluating Staff; Interviewing and Selection; Managing Generational Employees; Meetings: Individual, Specific Groups, Entire Staff; Policy and Procedures: Review and Development; Pushing Paperwork: Reports, Memos and Correspondence; Supervising Daily Operations; Training and Staff Development; Transition from Staff to Supervisor; Workplace Harassment and Violence

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