

November 2020

The ACO Voice

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

What Makes an Effective Ordinance?

**THERE IS NO POOP FAIRY
SCOOP YOUR POOP**



**GRAB IT
BAG IT
TOSS IT**



BERNALILLO COUNTY 
WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK

– THE ORIGINAL ANIMAL TRANSPORT –

SWAB

Wagon Company, Inc.

Family Owned & Operated Since 1868



*Model ARF-95
Nash County, NC*

ARF Series

Solid Fiberglass Animal Transports

- 🐾 Animal Compartment Safety Doors
- 🐾 Solid Fiberglass Construction
- 🐾 Fresh Air System
- 🐾 Auxiliary Four-way Flashers
- 🐾 Extra Large 6" Stainless Door Handles
- 🐾 Rear Step Bumper
- 🐾 2-year Warranty



**SWAB
Conversion Vans**
Now Available!

“DESIGNED WITH THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS IN MIND”

1-800-834-SWAB (7922)

P.O. Box 919 • 44 South Callowhill Street • Elizabethville, PA 17023 • www.swabwagon.com • Fax: 717-362-4579

What Makes an Effective Ordinance?

By Lauren Malmberg

Part One of a Three-Part Series

Editor's Note: With all the recent inquiries ACCA has received in regards to local ordinances, we have decided to reprint this series of articles. Our hope is that this information will provide you some guidance in updating/strengthening your local laws.

Strong local laws do not only benefit the public and animals in your community, they can make your job a lot easier! Your county or municipal animal control ordinance can be written to facilitate enforcement. In this first of a two-part series, we'll address the basic sections needed for an effective animal control ordinance with a few innovative or proactive elements that simplify enforcement.

First, there are two schools of thought on ordinance amendment: 1) Just draft or amend those sections that are immediately needed; or 2) Rewrite and amend the entire

ordinance at one time. Both views have merits – sometimes you just need to fix one small issue; other times you need to bring the entire chapter into more modern times. Some of our ordinances were written 50 or more years ago and have never been amended.

Whatever approach you decide to take, these following sections are the essential foundations of a successful animal control ordinance.

Rabies Inoculation

Local ordinances should require rabies inoculation for dogs at 4 months of age and older. Many communities include cats and even ferrets in rabies vaccination requirements. Cats should be included due to the incidence of cat bites and the possibility of rabies in free-roaming cats who encounter wildlife. An important part of any rabies inoculation ordinance is to include a provision that an unvacci-

Continued on Page 4

USED THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD BY

Animal Control
Humane Societies
Animal Rescue
Veterinarians • Zoos
Wildlife Rehabilitators

ALSO AVAILABLE

Live Animal Traps
Snake Tongs • Snake Hooks
Cat Graspers

**ketch-all
company**



www.ketch-all.com

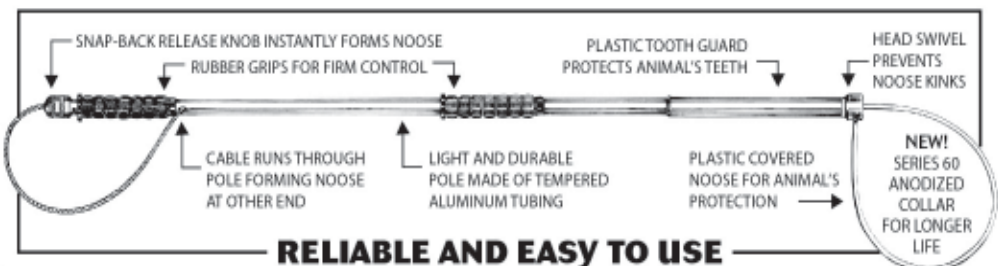
TOLL FREE

877-538-2425

email: ketch-all@ketch-all.com

The Ketch-All Pole The Original Animal Control Pole

The Ketch-All Pole is used to rescue and restrain both domestic and wild animals. Most widely used on dogs of all sizes, our pole is used just as successfully on many other animals, from squirrels to cougars, as well as on reptiles and mammals, including snakes, seals and sea lions.



RELIABLE AND EASY TO USE

STANDARD POLE

- **3 Foot Pole** (weight 1 3/4 lbs)
Used mostly in kennels for handling cats and small dogs
- **4 Foot Pole** (weight 2 lbs)
The most popular pole for general use
- **5 Foot Pole** (weight 2 1/4 lbs)
Popular because of its additional length
- **28" Baton Type Pole** (weight 1 2/5 lbs)
Most useful in confined areas for handling small animals

TELESCOPIC EXTENSION POLE

- **4-6 Foot Pole** (weight 2 1/2 lbs)
Extended, it is used when additional length is needed
Retracted, it is used as a heavy-duty restraining pole
- **7-12 Foot Pole** (weight 4 lbs)
Extended, it is used for rescuing animals from waterways, trees, storm drains, etc.
Retracted, it is used as a longer heavy-duty restraining pole

nated animal may be impounded.

Language in the ordinance should allow for one year and three year vaccinations; and can also allow a veterinarian to exempt an animal for health reasons from inoculation. Any exemption must require annual exam and registration, and an exempt animal should be treated unvaccinated for purposes of confinement if it bites.

Registration

To provide funding for animal control and ensure proper inoculation, local laws must require registration that coincides with the inoculation. To keep things simplest, require three year vaccinations get three year registrations. Although some communities do, there is no need to discount fees for three year registrations.

Again, include cats and ferrets in registration requirements – particularly if you include these species in the inoculation section. Most animal control departments handle more than just dogs in their daily work; it's only consistent and equitable that the owners of these species

support the animal control program as well.

A proactive ordinance will incorporate a significant differential in fee between intact animals and spayed or neutered pets to encourage sterilization. Also, ensure that owners must have the pet's tag displayed on their collar if the animal is off the owner's property.

Animal Bites to Humans

For those charged with rabies prevention and animal bite investigation, it's good to set forth the quarantine requirements for biting animals in local law. The law must include a provision that an animal may be impounded if not produced for quarantine. Many agencies require that biting

animals be microchipped on the date of release from confinement. The law should set forth significant penalties for violations of home confinement or for failure to produce the biting animal for quarantine. Requiring the sterilization of an animal that bites multiple times has become more recognized as a good practice recently.

Continued on Page 5

A strong nuisance section can allow for a significant penalty – which in addition to a penalty for a dangerous or vicious determination – can again provide incentive for a pet owner to address his dog's behavior.

Surplus Item for Sale - Coda Netgun - Standard Model

This item is an early version produced by Coda. I was advised that the device is in working order, however, it does require new nets which can be purchased directly from Coda. This device is the standard 4-barrel system and includes two net canisters; one net (needs replacement) and associated weights; metal case; and several blank cartridges (propellants for the Netgun; includes some yellow and blue loads). The trigger guard on the device also should be replaced.

The Coda Netgun is classified by the U.S. Bureau of A.T. F. as a tool rather than a firearm. This classification greatly facilitates the purchase, shipment, transport, and use of the tool.

If you are interested, please contact John Mays at jmays@accacademy.net



Dangerous/Vicious Dogs

Although many state laws have some legislation regarding dangerous or vicious dogs, a good practice is to include that language into your local law. When you do, increase the financial penalty for dogs declared dangerous or vicious and incorporate strict requirements for people who keep dogs determined or adjudicated vicious such as fencing, insurance, annual registration (in addition to rabies registration), higher registration fees, and prohibition from dogs parks or other public places. Prohibit dogs that have been determined, declared or adjudicated as dangerous or vicious in another area from coming into your community.

A strong nuisance section (discussed in Part Two of this article) can allow for a significant penalty – which in addition to a penalty for a dangerous or vicious determination – can again provide incentive for a pet owner to address his dog’s behavior.

Before setting out to rewrite or amend your local code, take a look at what nearby municipalities and counties may already be doing. You can also find good examples of other animal control ordinances at the Municipal Code Library at www.municode.com. Talk to your colleagues – in your state and even beyond state borders – someone may have just the ordinance language you’re looking for so you don’t have to reinvent the wheel. Next month, we’ll review more sections that can improve any animal control ordinance.



<https://www.asp-usa.com/>



Black Chrome

Airweight Aluminum

Steel Chrome

ACCA
Recommends



Jackson Creek

MANUFACTURING INCORPORATED



Animal Transportation Units with "CLASS"

**Supplier Of Humane Animal Transportation
Trapping & Handling Products**



**WE CAN CUSTOM BUILD TO
MEET YOUR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS**

Aluminum & Stainless Units
Shur-Trip Live Traps • Handling Equipment

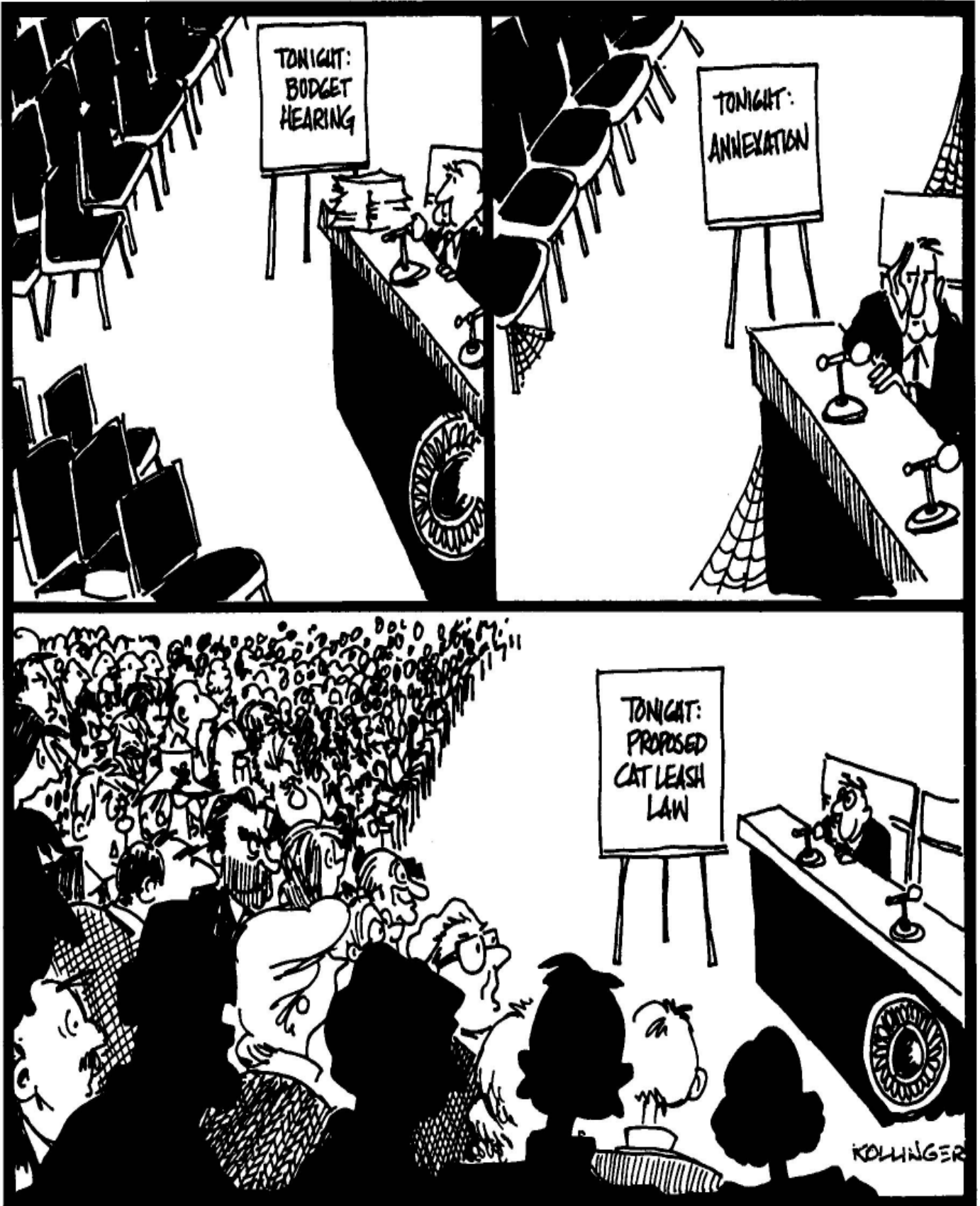


336-859-4561

www.jacksoncreekmfg.com
888-221-7823

Fax: 336-859-4562

The Joys Of Local Government



ACCA Training Schedule

For a registration form, visit www.accacademy.net or call 913-515-0080

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification

Hosted by the Sturgis Police Department

November 18-20, 2020 - Sturgis, South Dakota

Schedule of Training: 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

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification

Hosted by Kane County Animal Control

November 30 - December 3, 2020 - St. Charles, Illinois

Schedule of Training: 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

Baton/Bitestick Certification

Hosted by Kane County Animal Control

December 4, 2020 - St. Charles, Illinois

Schedule of Training: Baton/Bitestick Certification

Basic Animal Control Officer Certification

Hosted by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

December 7-10, 2020 - Golden, Colorado

Schedule of Training: 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

Advanced ACO/HLEO Certification Course

Hosted by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

December 14-18, 2020

Golden, Colorado

Schedule of Training: Animal Attack Investigation and Reporting; Animal Control in the Criminal Justice System; 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 Program for Animal Control Professionals

Hosted by Huachuca City Animal Control

January 4-7, 2021 - Huachuca City, Arizona

Schedule of Training: Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Officer Safety and Protection; Investigative Techniques for Cruelty and Neglect Complaints; Understanding the "Link" in Animal Abuse; Chemical Immobilization Certification