



ANIMAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN MASSACHUSETTS

ACO Training Guide



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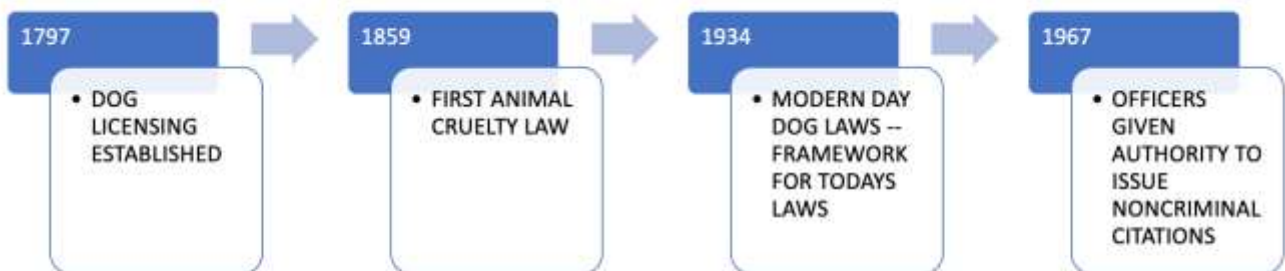


COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of these sessions, you will be able to:

- Discuss the sections in the current MGL that contain the majority of ACO duties and responsibilities.
- Identify the registration and licensing requirements for dogs.
- Discuss the requirements for Kennel licenses.
- identify rabies vaccination requirements.
- Discuss the identification of nuisance/dangerous dogs and the correct steps in dog control.
- Discuss the Importance of the tethering and confinement MGL.
- Discuss chapter 272 animal cruelty laws and investigations.
- Know the roles of Animal Inspectors and why cooperation with ACOs is essential
- Know reporting requirements
- Understand an ACOs responsibility and restrictions in responding to wildlife situations
- Gain basic animal Handling knowledge
- Learn about preparing for emergency situations
- Learn de-escalation techniques
- Write a clear and concise standard incident report

ANIMAL CONTROL TIMELINE



LAWS IN SECTION 140 REMAINED MAINLY UNCHANGED FROM 1975-2012, BUT COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE DISSOLVED IN 1990'S LEAVING MUNICIPALITIES ON THEIR OWN WITH NO FUNDS, NO INSPECTIONS





LICENSING, RABIES VACCINATIONS, AND KENNELS

Activity --What I Know

Directions:

- Answer the questions as best as you can. You'll have 5 minutes to work.
- As we go through the next section, check your answers. If you were incorrect, or if you didn't know the answer, write the correct answer in the space provided.

Question	My Answer	Wait, I want to change it!
All dogs require licenses when it reaches what age?		
To get a license all dogs have proof of what?		
If a six-month or older dog is acquired, the owner has how many days to obtain a license?		
What animals must be vaccinated for rabies?		
Once a rabies vaccine has expired, the animal is still considered vaccinated. True or False?		
What are three things that can lower a license fee set by a municipality?		
I rescue a 2 mo. old puppy. How long do I have to register it?		
Which of the following are valid reason for a veterinarian to issue an exemption for the rabies shot? a. Immune mediated disease b. Owners don't believe in vaccinations c. Anaphylaxis - severe allergic reaction d. Animal is fractious at the time of the exam		
Foster parents must license a dog individually if they have the dog for ___ days or more		
Dogs must have a license, but it is not necessary for them to wear it in public.		
A Kennel license is required if they are ____ or more dogs over 3 mo. on the property.		
What is the maximum fine for an unvaccinated dog, cat, or ferret?		



STOP! Go back to ACTIVITY 1. Want to make any changes? What questions do you have?

ACO ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Directions:

- Check each task that is the responsibility of an ACO.

<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct kennel inspections
<input type="checkbox"/> Issue dog and kennel licenses
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjust license fees
<input type="checkbox"/> Catch and confine dogs not collared or tagged
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete intake form immediately after pick up
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure municipal animals are held in a safe and sanitary location (Municipal Shelter or Massachusetts facility that holds an active kennel license)
<input type="checkbox"/> Actively seeks the owner for stray dogs; check for microchip, tattoo, or other ID; check the licensing lists for dogs with a similar description
<input type="checkbox"/> Post the dog's information on social media, website, flyers
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact police and nearby veterinarians
<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct inspections of their own shelters
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain owner surrender or court awarded custody to place a dog



MGL CHAPTER 140 SECTION 157 - NUISANCE / DANGEROUS DOGS

Key Points

Complaints	
Hearings	
Options	
Orders	
Change of State	
Change of Ownership	
Penalties	

Additional notes:



MGL CHAPTER 140 SECTION 174E - TETHERING LAW

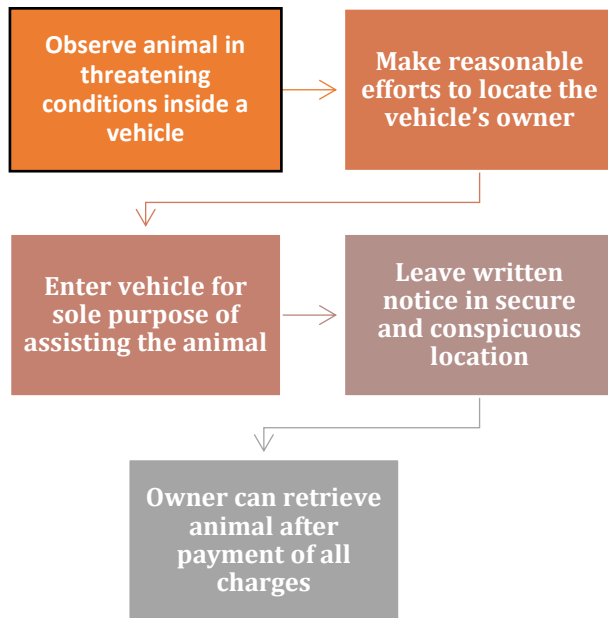
Key Points

Key Section	
Common Issues	
Key Requirements Under the Law-- Tethering Sections 174 (a)(b)	
Key Requirements Under the Law-- Adequate Shelter Section 174E (c)	
Key Requirements Under the Law-- Environmental Conditions Section 174E (d)	
Exemptions to Section 174E (e)	
Cruel Conditions Sections 174E (f)	
Fines/Penalties	



MGL CHAPTER 140 SECTION 174F - VEHICLE CONFINEMENT

ACO STEPS



CIVILIAN STEPS



WHAT IS THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CIVILIAN ACTION AND ACO/LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION?

Penalties

Discussion Notes



CHAPTER 272 - ANIMAL CRUELTY



What are the four basic needs of animals?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

CRITICAL
POINTS WHEN
INVESTIGATING
ANIMAL
CRUELTY

Exigent
Circumstances

What are they?



SERVICE ANIMALS - TITLE II AND III OF THE ADA

Service Animal Activity

A service animal means any *dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability."

Directions:

- Check the descriptions below that describe a service animal
- Cross out the descriptions are not valid descriptions
- Then read the scenario, s

Comfort Animals

Psychiatric Service Dog

Guide dog /Seeing Eye Dog

Seizure Response Dog

Therapy Dog

Emotional Support Dog

Trained Miniature Horse

Social Signal Dog

Scenario:

A young man enters a library with a dog. It is obvious that the dog is helping the young man navigate as his guide dog. Can the librarian ask for proof of the animal's certification?

KEY POINTS:



PAWS II - CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS

Abandoned Animals Key Points

Checking Abandoned Property	
ACO Responsibilities	

Animal Abuse Key Points

Reporting Requirements	
ACO responsibilities	

CHAPTER 129 AND MDAR

Key Points

MDAR	
Animal Inspector Role	
Cooperation between ACO and AI	
Wildlife Exposure Protocols	



330 CMR 30.0 - SHELTER / RESCUE REGULATIONS

Key Points