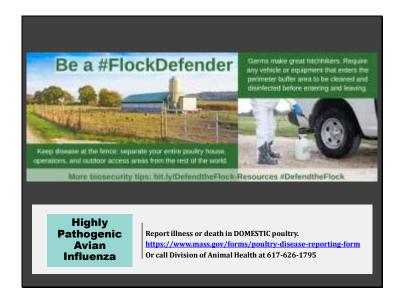
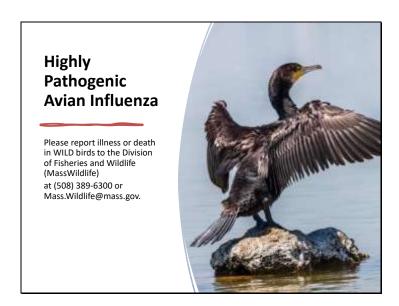


Dr. O'Connor and Andrew Vitz started off the meeting with HPAI updates. Dr. O'Connor then returned to this slide to give brief updates on the other diseases listed. No cases of Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease have been reported in MA. For Eastern Equine Encephalitis there is funding available through MDAR if low-income horse owners need assistance.



Dr. O'Connor stated that there has only been one confirmed case of HPAI in a domestic flock in MA. This case was in Berkshire County and was addressed through a partnership between local officials, MEMA, and MDAR.



Andrew stated that MassWildlife is planning on opening up an online reporting portal this week. MassWildlife is most interested in hearing about if 6 or more wild birds are found deceased. Clusters of higher than normal mortality should be reported.

Update the online reporting portals are open: Any unexpected deaths or other signs should be reported immediately to the Division of Animal Health at 617-626-1795 or through this online reporting form. Increased numbers of wild bird deaths should be reported to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife using the online form found at mass.gov/reportbirds Prompt reporting will expedite rapid testing and diagnosis.



https://www.mass.gov/info-details/aco-training-courses

Training options can be found at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/aco-training-courses



Two options are available for the Core Training in the Fall.

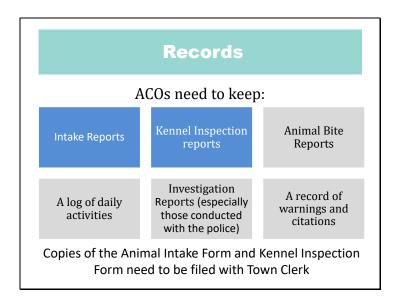
Registration is now open. Sheri stated that ACOs who need virtual accessibility need to sign up for <u>Session II Chelmsford</u> and then request access. <u>Session I Dedham</u> will be open for ACOs and non ACOs from municipalities.



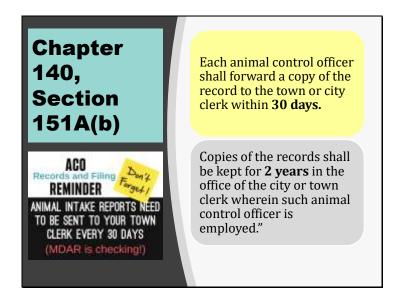
Sheri highlighted some of the upcoming continuing education courses available and reminded ACOs that some courses are eligible for double credit.



Sheri reminded ACOs that Summer CE letters will be going out soon. Summer letters are sent to ACOs directly, they are a chance for the ACO to double check what is in the database and make sure it is correct. Letters to Supervisors go out in January. Here are links to the CE Request Form and Multiple CE Request Form



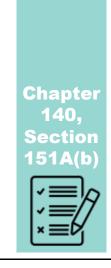
Sheri went over the records that ACOs are required under MGLs to keep, and stressed that Intake Reports and Kennel Inspection Reports need to be given to the town clerk every 30 days to be in compliance with state statutes.



Sheri stressed that ACOs have tough jobs and do amazing work, so they do not want to have something like lack of paperwork compliance to cast a shadow on that.

Chapter 140, Section 152 Animal control
officers are
responsible for
providing quarterly
reports to the mayor
or board of selectmen

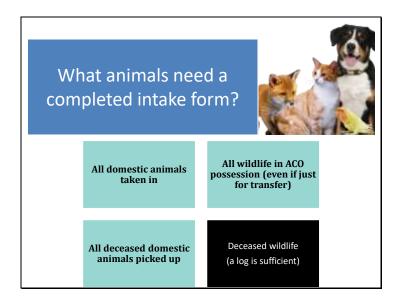
 Using copies of the monthly reports submitted to the town or city clerk will satisfy this requirement, but a summary of these activities will provide a clearer picture of the work completed



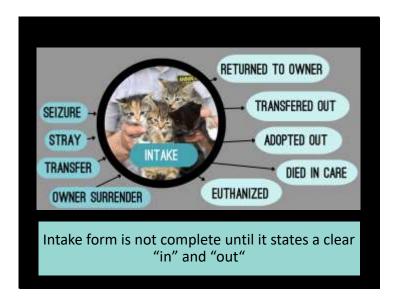
Each animal control officer shall make, keep, and maintain a system of records or forms which fully and correctly disclose the following information concerning each animal in the officer's custody:

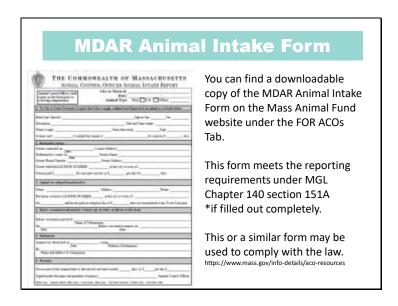
- 1) the date and location of apprehension;
- 2) a description of the animal;
- 3) the place of detainment;
- 4) if tagged, the name and address of the owner of the animal;
- 5) the name and address of a new owner, if any, including the date of sale or transfer of the animal;
- if the animal is euthanized, the method and date of euthanasia and the name of the person who euthanized the animal;
- 7) the date, location, and description of an animal euthanized by gunshot in cases of emergency, the disposition of the animal remains, and a description of the situation requiring gunshot.

Sheri stated that the state intake forms will meet the requirements if completed and submitted in full.



Sheri stated that any domestic animal that is in ACO care alive or deceased needs to have an intake form filled out. Alive wildlife needs an intake form even if it is only in the ACOs possession for transfer. Records of deceased wildlife can be in a simple log form that states species, disposal and location found.





An intake form must be filled out immediately for each animal picked up — this is the responsibility of the ACO. The requirement to complete these records cannot be transferred to the shelter or the kennel. During the 7-day hold, that dog is the town's responsibility.

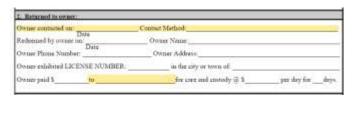
Update: A new ACO intake form has been developed since the meeting and is available at: https://www.mass.gov/doc/aco-intake-form/download

The new intake form is a fillable PDF that has defined fields that can be merged in batches into a CSV format monthly. Electronic records can be sent to the town clerk as long as they contain all the required information.

Intake Repor Part 1	microchip or tag information if available) • Cite where the dog or cat was caught		
Animal Control Officers shall report on this form prior to receiving compensation	City or Town of: Date: Animal Type: Dog Cut Other:		
l. To City or Town Tressurer.	Leport that I have caught, confined and disposed of an animal as set forth below:		
Broad type (Specify)	Approx Age: Sex:		
Description	Dute and Time cought:		
	Tittoo Microchip Tag*:		
Where Caught:			

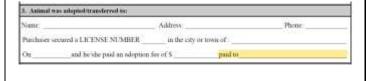
Sheri said the scanner brand field was recently added to the intake form.

- This is used if the animal was returned to its owner and to record attempt to contact.
- Fees given to holding facility should be recorded here.



Sheri stated that the owner contact date and method was added, as well as a field to capture what organization was paid holding fees.

- Part 3 is used if the animal was adopted/transferred after a seven-day hold
 - Transfers to registered shelters and rescues can only occur after the seven-day hold



- Write when the animal was given a rabies vaccine
 - All dogs and cats over the age of 6 months must be rabies vaccinated (Chapter 140, Section 145B)

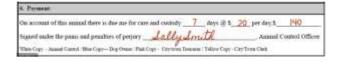


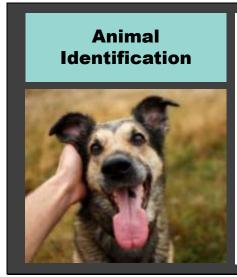
- Part 5 must be filled out if the animal was euthanized, whether after a seven-day hold for dogs or in the field in an emergency situation
- Should also be used if animal died in care. Report should be attached.



Sheri stated that additional outcome options were added to the form so that a clear outcome is always recorded.

 This indicates what payment, if any, was received by department for care and custody of the animal as allowed in Chapter 140, Section151A





- It is important to be able to identify a dog or cat using correct terminology for inclusion in incident and intake reports
- It is equally important to be able to identify a dog or cat using terms the public will understand in order to expedite the reunion of a dog or cat with its owner

Sheri stated that it is important to describe animals on the intake form, so that they would be able to be matched up if needed with lost reports etc.



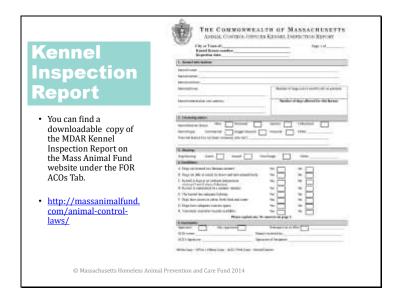
Sheri mentioned that the state developed a feline reporting form in 2021. This form was designed to help gain compliance with MGL Chapter 272 sec. 85A that requires that anyone who takes in a stray/lost domestic animal that is not their own needs to report it to the police or the animal control officer in the town where the animal was obtained.

Kennel Inspections - Section 137C

Inspections MUST be conducted before initial licensing, and UPON renewal

- ACOs are responsible for kennel inspections for licensing and renewal.
- Kennel inspections do not need to be scheduled in advance, but ACOs do need to obtain permission to inspect.
- · Kennel inspection report should be given to licensing authority.
- Kennel inspections should be performed by the ACO, but if there
 is a conflict of interest or ACO is unavailable the following
 municipal employees may inspect: selectman, mayor, police
 chief, police commissioner (Boston)

Sheri stated that another topic that MDAR is contacted for often by ACOs is kennel inspections.



The kennel inspection report developed by MDAR will work, or the municipality is welcome to develop their own form. If there is a significant issue with the inspection, or you need assistance with a serious problem, you should feel free to contact MDAR for guidance.



The kennel inspection report developed by MDAR will work, or the municipality is welcome to develop their own form. If there is a significant issue with the inspection, or you need assistance with a serious problem, you should feel free to contact MDAR for guidance.

Kennel Licenses – Section 137A

- 5 or more dogs on the property
- Dogs under 3 months of age don't count
- Boarding or training, including daycare
- Breeders commercial or hobby (personal)
- Charitable corporations (shelters / rescues)
- Veterinarians holding animals beyond medical necessity
- Nonprofits are free/pet shops are exempt



The definition of personal kennel says "more than 4 dogs", and the kennel licensing laws itself mentions people with "less than 4 dogs". Anyone with 5 or more dogs must have a kennel license.

Kennel inspections

- *municipalities can add further clarification into bylaws
 - Looking for adequate shelter, fresh food and clean water
 - Waste is managed appropriately; no buildup of feces or urine
 - Adequate ventilation with no excessive odors
 - Adequate temperature between 55° 85° F
 - Cages, enclosures or other housing is in good repair
 - · No sharp edges
 - · Functional latches

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You should be looking to ensure the animals appear happy and healthy, and that the kennel is maintained in such a way that there is no build up of solid or liquid waste. If the place is clean, smells good, and is comfortable, thank them for their time, hand them a copy of the completed inspection report, and let them know you'll see them next year. If the conditions are not acceptable, the specific problems will need to be documented in writing, for you and the owner.

Cooperation Between ACOs and Animal Inspector/MDAR

- For rabies exposure response ACOs need to work closely with AIs
 - AIs issue quarantines, ensure samples are tested, report to MDAR
 - ACOs handle bite reports, investigate dangerous dog situations, and assist in animal capture (if needed) and help ensure samples are tested.



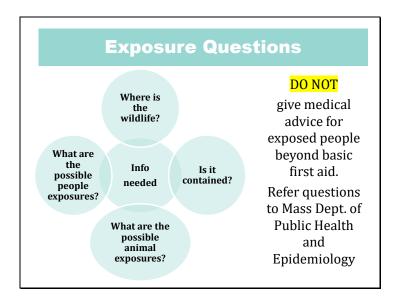
© Massachusetts Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund 201

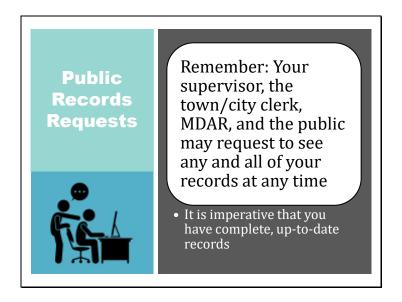
Sheri mentioned that ACO need to work closely with Als. Ashley spoke about the importance of working with the Al to investigate bites.



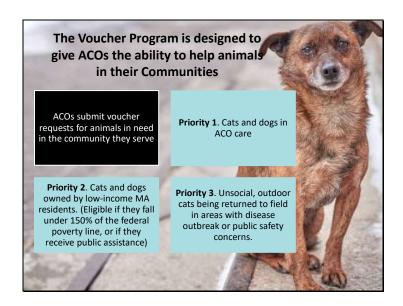
Correction the new form created in 2022 was the $\frac{\text{"Notice to Municipal Animal Inspector Form"}}{\text{please see next slide.}}$

Notice to Municipal Animal	Special Section	perdient tendent
Inspector of Possible Exposure to Rabies Form	Topolici in the state of the same in the state of the sta	
		The State of the S
This form was updated in 2022 and can be found by visiting the MDAR Rabies Control Program pages at:	Committee of the control of the cont	
https://www.mass.gov/service-	then they bloom benefits and the second	 String for the benefit for the benefit of the benefit
details/rabies-protocols-and-	3. Province on many selections	(100 mm) Sections
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Reminder all ACO records are subject to public record requests





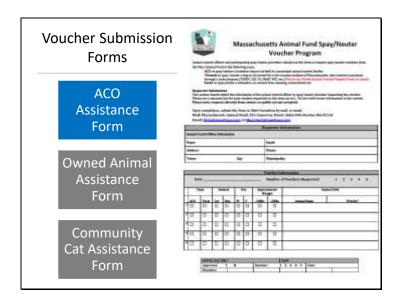


The Fund has partnered with over 50 local veterinary providers and 4 municipal partners to provide FREE spay/neuter through the voucher program.

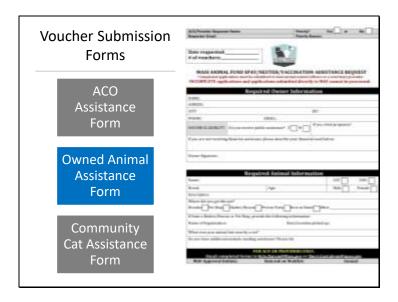
2022, Providers/Municipal Partners are reimbursed according to a 5-tier system for services administered:

- \$100 /Tier 1: male cats
- \$150 /Tier 2 : female cats
- \$200 /Tier 3: small male dogs <50lbs
- \$250 /Tier 4 : large male dogs, small female dogs
- \$300 /Tier 5 : large female dogs
- *additional reimbursements of \$10-\$150 given for approved complications. Options for vaccine vouchers are also available!

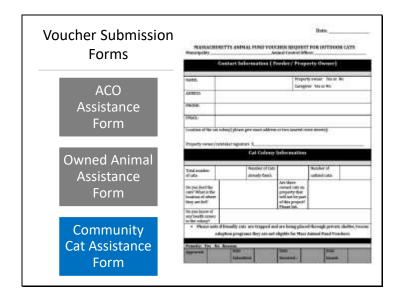
Here is a link to the find out more about becoming a municipal partner.



Use this form for animals in ACO care



Use this form for owned animals



Use this form for community or at-large cats



Here is a link to the main MDAR page