

Pet-Friendly Shelter

If disaster forces county residents to evacuate, Marion County Animal Services runs the off-site pet-friendly shelter. For location, information and requirements, contact Animal Services.

Intern Program

Animal Services regularly hosts students from veterinarian and veterinary assisting programs, providing a hands-on work site that enables them to gain real-life experience.

How can I help?

Volunteer at the Animal Center

Volunteers help care for and socialize the animals as well as assist citizens in the adoption areas. Fill out our volunteer application; it's available online or at the Animal Center.



Become a foster parent

Open your heart and home to animals that are too young or too sick to be adopted by becoming a foster family and caring for the animals until they reach adoption age or health. Foster applications are available on Animal Service's website or at the Animal Center.

Marion County Animal Services

5701 SE 66th St.

Ocala, FL 34480

Animal Center: 352-671-8700

Animal Control/Complaints: 352-671-8727

After-hours emergencies: 352-732-9111

Neuter Commuter: 352-307-1351

www.marioncountyfl.org/animal.htm

 facebook.com/marioncountyanimalservices

Animal Center:

Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kennels close 30 minutes prior to closing.

Animal Control

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Marion County Animal-Related Contacts

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| Animal Bites/Rabies (Environmental Health)..... | 352-622-7744 |
| City of Belleview..... | 352-245-7021 |
| City of Dunnellon..... | 352-465-8590 |
| Neuter Commuter..... | 352-307-1351 |
| Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission..... | 352-732-1225 |
| Humane Society of Marion County..... | 352-873-7387 |

**Note: All photos feature actual Animal Services staff, adoptable pets and forever families.*



Marion County Animal Services

Animal Center

Marion County Animal Services provides a wide range of services to the citizens, pet owners and animals of Marion County.

The department's Animal Center is Marion County's only open-admission shelter. This means the shelter doesn't selectively accept only the most adoptable animals; no animal is turned away, regardless of how sick, old, aggressive or potentially undesirable it might be to some. More than 11,000 animals enter the shelter each year; some are strays or lost pets, some are rescues from cruelty cases and some are turned in by their owners who can't or don't want to care for them any longer.

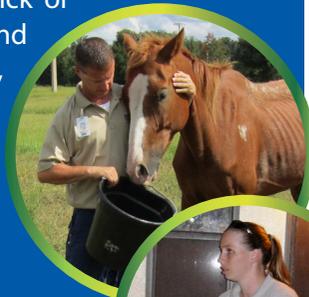
Staff places healthy and friendly animals up for adoption, and doesn't impose time limits on how long they can stay. Some animals have stayed at the shelter for months until they found the perfect forever home.

For animals that are too young, old or sick to be placed for adoption, staff often works to partner with foster homes or rescue groups. Regardless of the animal or circumstance, each animal is cared for and provided a safe, clean and caring environment for the duration of its stay.



Animal Control

Animal control officers respond to more than 10,000 calls a year and are on-call for emergencies 24 hours a day. They rescue injured, sick or stray domestic animals and investigate aggressive attacks, as well as animal cruelties that can range from one-animal cases to large-scale incidents involving hundreds of animals.



Adoptions

Find a new best friend and give an animal a second chance through Animal Services' adoption program. The nominal adoption fee for dogs and cats includes the animal's surgical sterilization, vaccinations, county license tag and microchip. Visit the shelter or browse adoptable animals on Animal Services' website; the site is updated hourly.



Licensing and Microchips

By law, all dogs and cats that are four months of age and older must be licensed through Animal Services. Purchase license tags from local veterinarians, at the Animal Center or by mail. You must have proof of a current rabies vaccination. Microchips are also available at the Animal Center.



Lost and Found

Lost your pet? Found a stray? Check with Animal Services first. Strays found without identification stay in the stray area for three full business days; animals with identification stay for 10 days. Staff scan the animals for microchips and attempt to locate the owners. If the unclaimed strays are healthy and friendly, they can go up for adoption at the end of their wait time. Visit Animal Services' website to search strays in the shelter and to register your lost or found pet. The site is updated hourly.

Spaying and Neutering

Millions of animals enter shelters each year because they are allowed to breed out of control. Animal Services encourages all owners to spay and neuter their pets, ensuring more animals can find homes and helping prevent pet overpopulation.

All cats and dogs adopted from the Animal Center are sterilized on-site, as required by law. The Neuter Commuter, Animal Services' mobile spay/neuter clinic, posts at various locations throughout Marion County and provides low-cost spay and neuter surgeries for citizens' pets. Appointments fill up quickly, so plan on scheduling your appointment about a month in advance.

