

PACFA UPDATE

Pet Animal Care Facilities Act

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2008 LICENSING REMINDER

As 2007 comes to a close and we look onto the 2008 license year the PACFA program would like to remind our pet care facilities about license renewal dates.

At the end of January 2008 your license renewal application will be sent out to be received sometime the first of February. All PACFA licenses expire the last day of February of the current license year, regardless of when they are issued. Applications and fees for 2008 must be postmarked on or before March 1, 2008 to be renewed without penalties. If license renewals are postmarked after March 1, 2008 a 10% late fee will be assessed. Anyone who has not submitted an application and fees by April is operating without a license (a clear violation of the PACFA law) and is subject to a fine of up to \$200.00. No licenses can be issued or delivered until all fees, late fees and fines have been paid.

Each year the PACFA inspectors spend a significant amount of time sending out late letters, collecting fees and processing penalties. This costs the program money, labor and time of the inspectors and office staff. This affects the PACFA budget and contributes to the overall cost of the program. Rather than increase license fees to pay for these costs, we impose fines and late fees on those facility owners who do not comply.

It is important that the PACFA inspectors focus their time on inspections, complaint investigations and compliance work rather than processing paperwork related to late license renewals. As the program grows, timely license renewal becomes more and more important to help keep the program costs at a minimum. License applications can be printed at any time from the PACFA website at <http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals>.

LEAD FOUND IN PET TOYS

Two Chinese-made toys for pets sold at Wal-Mart stores contain elevated levels of lead, chromium, and cadmium, according to a forensic toxicologist whose lab tested the products for ConsumerAffairs.com.

Two veterinarians, however, said the levels of toxic metals found in the toys do not pose a health risk to dogs or cats. Whether the toys are a hazard to children and adults who handle them isn't clear.

ConsumerAffairs.com hired ExperTox Analytical Laboratory in Texas to test four imported toys for pets – two for dogs and two for cats – for heavy metals and other toxins.

One of the dog toys – a latex one that looks like a green monster – tested positive for what the lab's toxicologist said are high levels of lead and the cancer-producing agent chromium.

A cloth catnip toy also tested positive for "a tremendous amount" of the toxic metal cadmium, the lab said.

ExperTox also analyzed two other Chinese-made pet toys – a cloth hedgehog for dogs and a plastic dumbbell toy for cats. The lab detected cadmium in those toys, but said the levels were "about the amount you'd find in one cigarette" and not considered significant. See pg. 3

PACFA REMINDER:

Boarders/Trainers & Groomers

- **Be reminded that in the event of death or escape you are required to notify the Department within 72 hours.**

BACTERIA IN PET SHAMPOOS

Two cases of post-grooming furunculosis (boils) have been documented according to the California Dermatopathology Services and IDEXX Veterinary Services. Both dogs had an acute onset of dorsally-oriented, painful, hemorrhagic furuncles (boils) and fever. Dogs within the same household can also be affected. Bacteria (*Serratia marcescens* & *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) were recovered from the dogs and bottles of a diluted community conditioner and a new bottle of undiluted shampoo. These bacteria can be transmitted through supposedly sterile solutions such as shampoos and conditioners used in dog grooming. Dogs present with a fever and significant pain approximately 48 hours after the groom. The condition responds well to antibiotics. If problems are observed discontinue use of suspected shampoos and disinfect all brushes, combs and blades that may have been contaminated.

NEW FACILITY PLAN SUBMISSION

Detailed plans and specifications shall be submitted to the Department whenever it is proposed to erect or extensively remodel any pet animal dealership, specifically any remodeling that requires a building permit and affects a minimum of 25% of the square footage of the existing facility. Approval of plans and specifications is necessary before construction can begin and final approval of the constructed facility is necessary before operation can start.

RECENT PET FOOD RECALLS

The AVMA is advising pet owners and veterinarians of two new pet food recalls:

Mars Petcare US <http://www.marspetcare.com/index.html>, has recalled Krasdale Gravy dry dog food and Red Flannel Large Breed Adult Formula dry dog food due to the potential that they are contaminated with Salmonella;

Wal-Mart, <http://www.walmartfacts.com/articles/5241.aspx>, has pulled Chicken Jerky Strips manufactured by Import-Pingyang Pet Products Co. and Chicken Jerky manufactured by Shanghai Bestro Trading because they tested positive for melamine.

Mars Petcare announced the voluntary recall on August 21, 2007, of select 50 pound bags of Red Flannel dog food sold in Pennsylvania and 5 pound bags of Krasdale Gravy dry dog food sold in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. The Krasdale food has the UPC Code 7513062596 and a best by date of July 16, & 17, 2008. Only three bags of the Red Flannel food were sold, and only one is currently unaccounted for with a UPC Code of 4286900062.

Wal-Mart announced on August 22, 2007, that it pulled Chicken Jerky Strips and Chicken Jerky on July 26, 2007 off store shelves and conducted multiple tests on the treats based on a small number of complaints received. Wal-Mart reports that these tests showed the treats were contaminated with melamine.

The Shanghai Bestro Trading Chicken Jerky has a UPC code of 0087784900006. Wal-Mart is offering full refunds on the recalled treats, and has also placed computer block on these products on all Wal-Mart cash registers to prevent customers from purchasing these treats.

For the latest information on recalled pet food and treats, please visit the AVMA Web site at www.avma.org. AVMA News Release August 22, 2007 – Tom McPheron

Doggie Daycare Nap Time and PACFA inspections

PACFA inspectors will try and honor nap time hours if they are clearly posted at the facility. Please keep in mind that in an effort to be most efficient with our time and resources we may not be able to inspect outside of nap-time hours.



Visit for These Websites for More Information on Recalled Pet Foods

www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/petfood.html

www.menufoods.com/recall

1-866-463-6738

To report pet illness

www.fda.gov/opacom/backgrounders/complain.html

LEAD IN PET TOYS... CONTINUED

ConsumerAffairs.com purchased the four pet toys earlier this month at a Wal-Mart store in Kansas City, Missouri. All the toys had a tag attached that read "Marketed by Wal-Mart stores and Made in China."

"Potentially toxic"

Forensic toxicologist Dr. Ernest Lykissa, Ph.D., director of ExperTox's lab, described the levels of lead and chromium as potentially toxic and said Wal-Mart should pull the products off the market.

"Or put a warning label on them that says if you put this (toy) in your mouth you will get poisoned," he said. "There is nothing good about the agents (in these toys) that I'm reporting to you."

Which is worse?

Which heavy metal – chromium or lead – poses a bigger threat to dogs?

"Toxic burden is toxic burden," Lykissa said. "You are increasing the burden on the animal by having these in there. A dog is going to get a good dose of chromium and lead from this toy."

The lab also detected other toxic metals in the green monster toy.



2008 PACFA LICENSE FEES

Following approval by the Advisory Committee and passage through the Agriculture Commission, a new rule will take effect for the upcoming licensing year. As a cash funded state program, PACFA is allowed only a certain amount of surplus from year to year. Due to the continuing success of the program, increasing license numbers each year and judicious management of expenses, we have reached that limit. New and renewing licensees can look forward to lower license fees for 2008.

Animal Rescue	\$80.00	Animal Shelter	\$280.00
Bird Breeder Common	\$80.00	Bird Breeder Uncommon	\$180.00
Boarding/Training	\$280.00	Cat Breeder	\$225.00
Dog Breeder (large scale)	\$280.00	Dog Breeder (small scale)	\$250.00
Grooming	\$225.00	Network Boarding	\$180.00
Pet Handler	\$80.00	Retail/Wholesale	\$280.00
Retail Aquarium Only	\$225.00	Small Animal Breeder	\$250.00

PACFA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In September the PACFA Advisory Committee met to discuss current issues facing licensed facilities. Representatives from all the license categories and members of the public spent the day reviewing the rules and regulations. Proposed changes were presented and voted on and will be taken before the Agriculture Commission in January. Changes will be sent to all PACFA licensees before they are reviewed by the Ag Commission. If you have questions regarding these changes you can contact the inspector in your area or Dr. Anderson.

Creative Pet Care

Ideas

- Bubble Wrap**– to keep caged animals warm without generating loads and loads of laundry, place a layer of bubble wrap under a towel. This combination keeps the patient off the cage floor and provides isolation without adding as much to the laundry pile. – **Christine Bell, Vet Assistant, Scotts Valley, CA**
- Letter Opener**– a letter opener can be an effective tool to remove clumps of matted hair from cats. The point helps to break through a mat and divide it, and the protected razor blade cuts through the mat and thins it out– in addition to minimizing the risk of cutting the skin. –**Dr. Thomas D Hauk, Chicago, IL**

THIS & THAT

Important PACFA Regulation Reminders for 2008

1. During the winter months heating is deemed necessary when the ambient temperature of the facility falls below 50 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of 4 consecutive hours.
2. Ventilation shall be adequate to provide for the health and comfort of the animals and to minimize odor and moisture.
3. During the 2008 license renewal period breeder facilities must renew their waivers for housing more than 5 dogs in any one common area at any one time.
4. Shelters which do not have a veterinarian on staff shall have a written agreement with a veterinarian for services and consultation regarding animal health needs, treatments and disease processes. A copy of such an agreement with non-staff veterinarian(s) shall be kept on the premises. This agreement shall be updated each licensing period.
5. The animal shelter and rescue licensee shall report to the Commissioner on a yearly basis the number of dogs, cats and other pet animals that are accepted into the animal rescue

CITY AND COUNTY REGULATIONS AND PACFA

Having a PACFA license does not preclude you from city and county regulations. Be sure that you are in compliance with all city and county codes when opening and operating your pet care facility.

FUTURE NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

Please send future newsletter suggestions to:

Lisa.gibson@ag.state.co.us.

We will try and include topics of interest in upcoming issues of PACFA Update.

Visit us on the web!

[http://www.
colorado.gov/ag/
animals](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals)

