

PACFA UPDATE

JUNE 2009

Pet Animal Care Facilities Act

Summer Edition

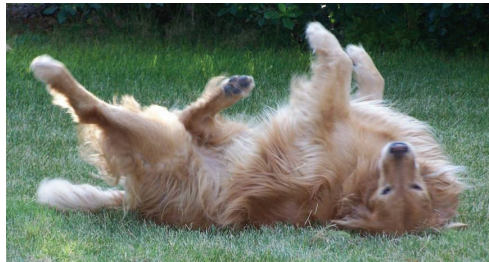
Colorado
Department of
Agriculture

Legislative Update: PACFA Sunset Review

The 2009 legislative session was a lively one. The PACFA program underwent a scheduled sunset review during 2008. The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) which performed the review filed their report in January 2009. The report contained several recommendations for changes to the program. These recommendations appear as changes to the PACFA statute or law.

First and foremost, DORA recommended that the PACFA program continue. The examination of the program along with interviews of the public and surveys of licensees revealed a large amount of support for the program. The program will be reviewed during another full sunset process in 5 years rather than 10 years. The legislature decided that a full program review was necessary to assess performance. This will represent a cost to the program and fees may increase to pay for the next review.

A great benefit to the program was the requirement that the program add an additional inspector to facilitate investigations and improve the performance of the program. The statute was altered to include the requirement that we review the fees and raise them as necessary to provide for this additional inspector. The maximum fee amount was not changed and remains \$350. No change in fees will be made prior to 2010.



Champ enjoying these first days of summer!!

There will be an additional seat on the Advisory Committee for a representative of the Dog Daycare business. This will bring the total number of seats to 17. If you are a licensed Boarding facility that offers Day Care and would like to be considered for this position please contact Dr. Anderson.

Information in the statute regarding license renewal dates will be moved to the rule. This will make it easier in the future to change the renewal date if there comes a time when the Department as a whole begins to consolidate license renewal for all programs. No change in the dates will be made at this time so you can expect to renew your PACFA license by March 1, 2010.

PACFA licensed facilities will be required to prominently display PACFA office contact information. The staff will be producing a small poster or sign which will offer customers contact information for the program office and web site. DORA wanted to be sure the public knew who to contact with questions about a facility.

The PACFA Sunset Bill was signed by Governor Ritter on June 1, 2009 and the changes will be in effect July 1, 2009. Please contact our office with questions or comments about the sunset review.

In addition to the PACFA Sunset Bill, House Bill 1172 was proposed by Representative Beth McCann and the Humane Society of the United States. This bill would have made several changes within PACFA affecting licensed Dog Breeding facilities. The bill proposed to limit the number of dogs that could be kept for breeding at any facility to 25, to require yearly veterinary certification of all breeding dogs in the facility, to make license denial for cruelty conviction mandatory instead of discretionary, and to authorize inspection of premises and records at any time rather than during regular business hours. Testimony from the Department was able to show that the PACFA rules and regulations currently have the authority to provide these requirements if necessary. This bill died in committee but we will likely continue to see pressure from these groups to increase regulation on licensed facilities.

With four long months of testimony behind us we continue to make improvements and move forward. Colorado's pet care program continues to be a model program for other states and is one of the most progressive and comprehensive inspection programs in the nation. We will continue to look for new and better ways to efficiently and effectively administer the program and welcome input from licensees on how we can help them improve their facility.

Inside this issue:

<i>Recordkeeping hits warp drive!</i>	2
<i>Thank you, thankyou-verymuch</i>	2
<i>Bright Ideas</i>	2
<i>Six states seek ban on gas euthanasia...</i>	3
<i>Summer Surfing on the Web</i>	3
<i>Reminders</i>	4
<i>This & That</i>	4
<i>Thanks for Having Us</i>	4

Recordkeeping hits warp drive!



We know that recordkeeping for pet care facilities can be tough to keep organized at times. There is a great deal of information to keep track of and it becomes cumbersome. There are several computer software programs that have been brought to our attention as being highly beneficial.

Chameleon <http://www.chameleonbeach.com> is specifically for shelters, and would probably work for rescues as well. The program has not only recordkeeping but also boasts capabilities to assist in increasing adoptions, owner returns and revenue for shelters. Basically it's a one-stop shop for shelters! There is a one time fee of \$9,800.00 for direct purchase and an annual fee of \$960.00 per year per workstation and server. They are also coming out with an abbreviated version (might be useful for rescues as well) called BowserBrowser. I will include information regarding it in the next newsletter.

Chapman Pet Programs <http://www.ezkennel.com/> makes several different software packages.

E-Z Kennel Plus is a kennel management software that includes records for adult animals, litters, puppies/kittens, people, finances, pictures, pedigrees, contracts, medical records, and much more. Cost is \$140.00

Kennel Biz is for distributors and resellers of puppies and kittens. It includes records for purchasing, distributing, invoices, medical records, pets on hand, availability, bookings, collars, breeder and store reports, extensive financial reports and much more. Cost is \$505.00

Puppy Stuff is geared towards pet stores. Contains puppy and kitten purchases, sales, medical and registration records. Employee sales, customer records, availability, financial reports and more. Cost is \$240.00

Not sure you're ready to buy,? You can try out the program with a demo that is good for a period of time.



Thank you, thankyouverymuch

To those licensees who sent in their renewal packets on time, we want to extend our thanks!! We truly appreciate your assistance in making the re-licensing time easier and to flow smoothly.

- Each year delinquent facilities take administrative time to create additional documents that must be issued in an effort to bring facilities into compliance.
- The program has to pay the state's attorney for his time to review the documents associated with delinquent licensees.
- Time is taken away from inspectors doing routine inspections, complaint investigations and compliance work, in an effort to track down those delinquent licensees.
- Often additional time is needed by inspectors, administrative personnel and the program administrator to explain documents and licensing processes associated with the delinquent facilities.

So to those of you who saved us all of that additional time and work...Thank you, Thankyouverymuch!

I think animal testing is a terrible idea; they get all nervous and give the wrong answers.
~Author Unknown

Bright Ideas!

■ A letter opener (like the one pictured here) can be an effective tool to remove clumps of matted hair from cats. The point helps 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



■ We have found that Epi-Otic (Virbac) works well to get rid of the smell associated with anal gland expression. Epi-Otic comes in a squirt bottle, but I created a spray bottle (which wastes less product) by placing an old pump spray top from an empty cologne bottle onto an 8 oz. Epi-Otic bottle.

-A. Nadine Leach, CVA1, Denton, TX

you smell GOOD!

**If you have a good idea that has worked for your facility, please email us with it and we will share it in future newsletters!

Six states seek ban on gas euthanasia of shelter animals

Six states are considering proposals to ban carbon monoxide gas chamber use in animal shelters as a means of euthanasia, in response to animal rights supporters who say the process is inhumane.

Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina, New York, West Virginia and Pennsylvania have legislation pending, according to Kimberley Intino, director of the Shelter Services Program for the Humane Society of the United States. Twelve states already ban it, she says.

Death by CO poisoning can be slow and terrifying," says Daphna Nachminovitch, vice president of cruelty investigations for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. "During the process, which can take 30 minutes, panicked animals may gasp for breath, try to claw out of the chamber, and even attack each other."

Intino says that in her six years at the Humane Society, this is the first time multiple states have introduced legislation banning euthanasia by carbon monoxide gas chambers. She says the Humane Society is "incredibly involved" in advocating legislation to protect animals.

The new legislation is being met with some opposition from veterinary medical groups. Jane Williston, president of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, acknowledges injection is the preferred method, but she says there is a danger using it on aggressive feral animals. "Dogs and cats in shelters, most often, are not of the same temperament, and you are not in the same controlled environment that you are in your veterinarian hospital. ... There is nothing kind, gentle or stress-free about it," she says.

The method is either legal or not referenced in state laws governing animal euthanasia in 37 states and the District of Columbia, Intino says.

Virginia became the latest state to stop using gas chambers in 2008, Intino says. More states are looking at it, she says, because "the general public, as well as the people working specifically in animal welfare, are just simply becoming more educated about carbon monoxide as a form of euthanasia."

Illinois state Sen. Heather Steans, a Democrat, says she introduced a bill in January to ban the practice after someone from the Humane Society approached her about it.

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) guidelines list the gas-chamber method as a "conditionally acceptable agent and method of euthanasia."

Legislation in the six latest states is either in committee or awaiting votes. Among those states, the Georgia VMA says it supports national AVMA guidelines, and New York's says it is neutral.

States already banning CO gas chamber use according to the HSUS:

Arizona	Maine	Tennessee
Arkansas	Maryland	Virginia
California	New Jersey	
Delaware	Oregon	
Florida	Rhode Island	

By Andrew Seaman Special to, USA TODAY
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Summer Surfing on the Web

The webpage for PACFA can be found at:

www.colorado.gov/ag/animals

Just look for the Pet Animal Care Facilities link to the left.

We have various forms on the webpage, lots of links to additional information, etc. Our regulations have been put back on line!! If you only want a certain section or you're having problems finding what you need online, certainly phone or email requesting regs, we're happy to send them to you.

Email is: pacfa@ag.state.co.us or lisa.gibson@ag.state.co.us

Keep your eyes open for changes coming to the webpage as well. Things like an upcoming events section, newly updated forms and other fun changes.



*"Lots of people talk to animals...Not very many listen, though...That's the problem.
~Benjamin Hoff, The Tao of Pooh*



“Thousands of years ago, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this.”

~Anonymous

This & That

If you would like information (inspections, complaints, disciplinary actions, etc.) related to a facility, a request in writing must be made.

This can be done via fax, email or regular mail. Please be specific as to what records you are requesting, any timelines involved, and which facility you are making the request about.

The first 20 pages of any request are free. Beyond that there is a charge of .25 per page. If the request is small, results can be emailed to you. Other than that they will be mailed.



**Pet Animal Care Facilities Act
Division of Animal Industry
700 Kipling St., Suite 4000
Lakewood, CO 80215-8000**

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Reminders

- *Be sure to notify our office in writing if you close your facility.*
- *Change of address, name changes, etc. also require that you notify our office in writing within 15 days.*
- *Remember to submit plans if you have a new facility or when remodeling affects a minimum of 25% of the square footage.*
- *Cleanliness Promotes Health!*

Thanks for having us!

As many of you know we will give presentations on the PACFA program to groups. We would like to thank the following groups for having us out to give presentations recently:

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture

Animal Assistance Foundation—Spay/Neuter Webinar

Colorado Association of Animal Control Officers Conference

Ms. Tomlinson's 5th Grade Class at Green Valley Elementary

Pet Sitters Association of Colorado

