



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2012

## **MEMPHIS ANIMAL SERVICES SERVES AS HOST AGENCY FOR STATE MANDATED TRAINING**

Memphis, Tenn. – On January 19-20, 2013, Memphis Animal Services (MAS) will serve as host agency for West Tennessee for the Pre-Euthanasia Certification Training for persons employed by a certified animal control agency. To that end, MAS will be closed to the public on Saturday & Sunday, January 19-20, 2013.

This training is mandated and approved by the State of Tennessee Department of Health Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Chapter 1730-04) and conducted by the Animal Control Association of Tennessee (ACAT). The 2-day training session is conducted throughout the state of Tennessee for persons employed by a certified animal control agency on how to euthanize non-livestock animals humanely. ACAT held the same training on November 10-11, 2012 at McKamey Animal Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

### **Who needs to be certified?**

In Tennessee, you must be a Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician in order to legally euthanize non-livestock animals. The Tennessee Board of Veterinary Examiners defines a Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician (C.A.E.T.) as a person employed by a certified animal control agency who is authorized by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (BVME) to humanely euthanize non-livestock animals by administering drugs referred to in Rules 1730-04-.13 and 1730-05-.14 which have been approved by the BVME for the euthanasia and pre-euthanasia of non-livestock animals in a certified animal control agency. Please visit [www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/1730/1730.htm](http://www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/1730/1730.htm) to read the rules and regulations in further detail regarding C.A.C.A's and C.A.E.T.'s.

### **What is Animal Control Association of Tennessee (ACAT)?**

ACAT was originally organized in 1989. The purpose of this association is to improve the methods and standards of the animal control profession on a statewide basis, to inform the public of the true nature and importance of the work performed by animal control organizations, to cooperate with other public agencies dealing in animal control, and to promote justice and equity in the enforcement of animal control laws. Please visit their website at [www.tnanimalcontrol.org](http://www.tnanimalcontrol.org) for more details on the association.

(more)

**Will MAS offer off-site adoption events, since the facility will be closed on Saturday?**

Yes. MAS continues to feature a pet for adoption on WREG-TV Channel 3. MAS also works aggressively with rescue groups to locate animals loving forever homes. Additionally, MAS will offer the Yappy Hour Adoption rate of \$40 per dog and 2-for-1 cat adoption during the entire month of January 2013.

**Will MAS extend the holding period for animals that have expired dates on January 19 & 20?**

Yes, MAS will extend the holding period for all animals in the facility for one additional business day.

**Will any animals be euthanized during the training session?**

Rule 1730-05-.03(2)(d) reads in part that the course on euthanasia "...must include the performance of proper euthanasia of an animal by each student."

Without actually performing euthanasia there is no way to determine if a student should be qualified to perform this procedure without an instructor or veterinarian present. The State of Tennessee is trying to raise the quality of care given to animals that must be euthanized across the state.

###

For more information, contact:  
Allison J. Fouché  
Division of Parks and Neighborhoods  
Office of Public Relations  
[Allison.Fouche@memphistn.gov](mailto:Allison.Fouche@memphistn.gov)