



NEWS RELEASE

Memphis Animal Services Announces Temporary Field Operations & Intake Policy Changes

Memphis, Tenn., March 13, 2020 – In an abundance of caution, and based on [recommendations from the National Animal Care & Control Association \(NACA\)](#), Memphis Animal Services is enacting revised intake policies to comply with the social distancing guidelines issued by the CDC. Additionally, these temporary policy revisions are a response to a significant decrease in adoptions, reclaims and rescue transfers, which has resulted in a capacity crisis at our facility. We simply do not have enough kennels as the number of animals coming in is greatly exceeding the number of animals going out.

Until further notice:

- Memphis Animal Services Officers will only impound animals that pose an immediate threat to public safety or that need immediate medical care.
- Memphis Animal Services Intake Desk (at the shelter) will only accept emergency intakes. All owner surrender appointments have been pushed back as well.

Additionally, we are seeking as many fosters as possible to care for pets in their homes until normal operations can be resumed. Should we be forced to reduce our workforce levels, having fewer pets requiring care in our facility will be imperative. If you can foster a pet now, please come into our facility during [our adoption hours](#), or [fill out this form to be on call](#) for any emergency foster needs that may arise.

About Memphis Animal Services

Memphis Animal Services is the only open-intake animal shelter in the city of Memphis. MAS works to help keep people and pets safe by enforcing animal care and control laws, caring for homeless pets, and achieving positive outcomes for the pets in their care. The shelter has not had to euthanize a healthy, adoptable cat, small dog, or puppy in three years. Having saved 88 percent of the nearly 9,000 pets in its care in 2018, MAS envisions a day when no healthy, adoptable pet dies in Memphis due to lack of space, every owned pet is well loved and cared for, and no citizen's safety is put at risk by irresponsible pet ownership. For more information, visit www.memphisanimalservices.com, call 901-636-1416, or visit the facility at 2350 Appling City Cove. To become a fan of Memphis Animal Services on Facebook go to: <https://www.facebook.com/memphisanimalservices/>. Follow Memphis Animal Services on Twitter & Instagram @AdoptMAS.