



Measures to Help Ensure the Success of Your Community's Dangerous Dog Ordinance

- (1) **Community education.** Using the fees generated from increased penalties and differential licensing, communities should consider offering basic pet ownership classes, particularly in underserved areas of the community.
- (2) **Community-friendly reporting system.** Using fees generated from increased penalties and differential licensing, communities should consider instituting a hotline number or an 800 number that would allow citizens to report dogs running at large, dogs behaving in a potentially dangerous manner, or other animal control ordinance violations. This system could be particularly effective if implemented at the regional level, with operators trained in dispatching calls to the appropriate shelter or animal control agency.
- (3) **Regionally enforceable dangerous dog ordinances.** Communities should work together on a regional level to ensure (1) strong dangerous dog ordinances are in effect across jurisdictional lines and (2) ordinances are being uniformly enforced throughout the region.
- (4) **Integration of education and enforcement programs.** As part of the sentencing process information about sterilization, vaccinations, and community animal resources should be given to animal ordinance violators. Depending on available community resources, courts may elect to dispense free or subsidized spay/neuter vouchers to ordinance violators (particularly where violators have been ordered to sterilize their animals).

The Coalition for Living Safely with Dogs is a group of Colorado animal health, care, and control professionals seeking to educate dog owners about responsible pet ownership, inform citizens about their rights and responsibilities for making communities safer, and assist municipalities in creating and enforcing good dangerous dog laws.

- All Breed Rescue Network (ABRN)
- Animal Assistance Foundation (AAF)
- Colorado Association of Animal Control Officers (CAACO)
- Colorado Association of Certified Veterinary Technicians (CACVT)
- Colorado Federation of Animal Welfare Agencies (CFAWA)
- Colorado Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)
- Denver Area Veterinary Medical Society (DAVMS)
- Metro Denver Shelter Alliance (MDSA)
- Summerlee Foundation

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