

**FORT BENNING  
STRAY ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**U. S. ARMY GARRISON AND  
MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA**

March 2016

## **PURPOSE**

The Fort Benning Stray Animal Management Plan will facilitate implementation of the installation's stray animal policy and establish an integrated program for the control of stray animals.

## **POLICY**

Fort Benning will control stray animals on the installation in order to ensure the health and welfare of all personnel, their pets, and wildlife populations. Stray animal control will be accomplished in accordance with Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE) Regulation 40-905 and in a manner that is as ethical, economical, and efficacious as practicable. Fort Benning's Directorate of Public Works (DPW) will be the organization with primary responsibility for implementing the Stray Animal Management Plan as a component of the installation's Integrated Pest Management Plan; however, the successful control of stray animals on the installation will require the support of all directorates. Stray animal control on Fort Benning will be predicated upon reports received from installation personnel; active patrols for unreported stray animals are not anticipated.

## **REFERENCES**

- a) Maneuver Center of Excellence Regulation 40-905, Pet and Animal Disease Control, 25 April 2012
- b) Installation Management Command, Stray Animal Control Program, Recommended Implementation Guide
- c) Armed Forces Pest Management Board, TECHNICAL GUIDE NO. 37, Integrated Management of Stray Animals on Military Installations, 25 May 2012
- d) Policy Memorandum 200-5-10, SUBJECT: Installation Pest Management Practices, 3 March 2016

## **DEFINITION**

A stray animal is defined as an uncontrolled dog or cat which is homeless, ownerless, or is privately owned and allowed to roam without restrictions.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Animal Owners** – will maintain control over their pets in accordance with MCoE Regulation 40-905. Residents of Family Housing areas on Fort Benning should report stray animals to the manager of their particular community.

**Directorate of Emergency Services (DES)** – will enforce MCoE Regulation 40-905; however, DES will provide emergency response only for stray animal reports that present an immediate threat to the health and welfare of installation personnel or their pets. DES will direct callers with non-emergency stray animal reports to contact the applicable directorate during business hours to resolve complaints.

**DPW Integrated Pest Management Coordinator** – will serve as the Primary Point-of-Contact (POC) and provide technical guidance regarding implementation of the Stray Animal Management Plan.

**DPW Construction Inspection Branch (CIB)** – will serve as the Alternate POC, receive and process requests for stray animal control, and provide oversight for the stray animal capture contract and the stray animal recovery contract. CIB will maintain records pertaining to stray animal capture and recovery, including associated costs. CIB will coordinate access to a stray animal temporary holding facility for use by the capture and recovery contractors and Residential Community Initiative (RCI) staff.

- **Contractor, Stray Animal Capture** – will pick up stray animal service orders daily and provide humane capture of stray animals in accordance with industry-accepted practices. The contractor will immediately deliver and secure captured strays at the temporary holding facility. For each service order, the contractor will record all pertinent data requested by CIB. Any stray animal known to be involved in a biting or scratching incident will be delivered by the contractor to the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) for a ten-day quarantine.
- **Contractor, Stray Animal Recovery** – will maintain the temporary holding facility using industry-accepted housekeeping practices, including providing sufficient food and water for occupied stalls. The contractor will quarantine each stray animal for three days while observing them for health problems and conducting an owner search and/or adoption in accordance with MCoE Regulation 40-905 and contract requirements. After three days, the stray animal will become property of the contractor and will be relocated to the contractor's shelter off-post. The contractor may initiate the adoption process at any time after the stray animal is delivered to the temporary holding facility; however, actual transfer to a new owner may only occur after the three-day quarantine period has lapsed. If the contractor should become aware of any violations of MCoE Regulation 40-905 during the completion of their daily duties, the contractor will provide this information to DES for enforcement and inform CIB about the incident.

**Facility Occupants** – Installation visitors, employees, and other personnel are prohibited from abandoning, feeding, or otherwise maintaining stray animals on the installation, in accordance

with MCoE Regulation 40-905. Stray animals will be reported to the DPW service request help-desk (706-545-2135). Personnel will not trip, modify, open, or otherwise interfere with traps set to control stray animals. Facility managers will ensure that outdoor trash receptacles have functioning lids that are kept closed to avoid attracting stray animals. Facility managers will ensure that facility integrity is sufficient to prevent stray animal access and/or harborage. Facility deficiencies are to be reported to the DPW help-desk.

**Residential Community Initiative (RCI)** – privatized Family Housing areas.

- **RCI Family Housing Managers** – will require residents to register and maintain their pets in accordance with MCoE Regulation 40-905 and will maintain a copy of pet registration in the lease records for each residence. Managers will review pet registration annually to ensure that it is current. In the event of noncompliant behavior, managers will inform residents of the potential for loss of housing or pet-ownership privileges. Stray animals brought to the attention of managers will be reported to the DPW service request help-desk (706-545-2135). CIB will provide RCI Family Housing managers with keys so that maintenance and service staff may deliver stray animals to the temporary holding facility, if necessary.
- **RCI Family Housing Maintenance and Service Staff** – will notify managers about stray animal sightings or evidence of residents feeding stray animals. Maintenance and service staff who become aware of unregistered pets or pets prohibited by MCoE Regulation 40-905 will report them as well. Maintenance and service staff who encounter friendly stray animals in Family Housing areas shall make a reasonable effort to recover them and, if necessary, deliver them to the temporary holding facility. Stray animals that cannot be safely recovered by RCI staff will be reported to the manager, who will contact the DPW help-desk (706-545-2135) to request capture.

**Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF)** – Any captured stray animals that are implicated in a biting or scratching incident (suspect animals) will require a ten-day quarantine and monitoring by the VTF. During the recovery contractor's required three-day quarantine for newly-captured, non-suspect stray animals, those that are identified by the recovery contractor as having debilitated health will be examined by the VTF (regular business hours only) and treatment recommendations provided. If euthanasia and carcass disposal are determined to be necessary by VTF staff during either of the mandatory quarantine periods, it will be performed by the VTF.