

6.04.031 Administration and enforcement.

A. A humane society or other animal control authority as defined under RCW 16.52 and that is designated by the County Council and the County Executive shall be responsible for administration and enforcement of this chapter, to include the following:

1. Operate or cause to be operated an animal shelter;
2. If the designee deems it necessary, select, train, hire, and retain a qualified animal control officer or officers to enforce the provisions of this chapter;
3. Investigate complaints pertaining to animal misconduct occurring in the unincorporated areas.
4. Administer animal licensing obligations provided for in this chapter, to include: the issuance and re-issuance of licenses; the collection of licensing fees, taxes, and penalties; and the enforcement of licensing requirements.

B. In the absence of a designated humane society or other animal control authority pursuant to Section A, the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this chapter. (Ord. 98-022; Ord. 90-82 (part)).