



Vacaville Police Department
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Press Release

Today's Date: 06-17-10

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Type of Neighborhood Canvassing to Provide Dog License

Incident: Information

VVPD VOLUNTEERS TO BEGIN INFORMATIONAL CHECK OF DOG LICENSES

Vacaville Police Department volunteers will be canvassing Vacaville neighborhoods next week to inform residents about the dog licensing process.

Beginning June 21, 2010, volunteers will go door-to-door with an informational flyer and dog license registration forms to make the process as simple as possible. The canvassing is not enforcement oriented but is designed to encourage and help dog owners voluntarily comply with the law.

According to statistics provided by the American Veterinarian Medical Association there are between 19,000 and 24,000 dogs owned in Vacaville, yet only 5,550 of them, or about 23 percent, are licensed. Public health and safety are the primary reason for the dog-licensing requirement. A dog license can only be obtained after the dog has been vaccinated for rabies. This requirement ensures that the rabies virus is not conveyed to our domestic dog population. Animal licensing helps Animal Control officials maintain compliance with local and state rabies vaccination laws. A dog license also helps animal control officers reunite dog owners with their lost companion.

License fees offset about 20 percent of the cost of providing animal shelter and animal control services. Every lost or abandoned animal taken to the shelter incurs a cost to the City. Being a responsible pet owner helps reduce those costs.

For information about dog licensing, contact the Director of Humane Animal Services, Marcel Harnois at 449-1700.