



*In Collaboration with Heath Mobile Veterinary Services*

## **RECOGNIZING ANIMAL CRUELTY OR NEGLECT AND MAKING A REPORT**

### **How Do I Recognize Animal Cruelty or Neglect?**

#### **Physical Signs May Include:**

- Observing physical abuse of the animal by a person
- Animal is extremely thin
- Animal shows extreme fear of suspected abuser
- Open wounds or multiple healed wounds
- Animal is limping or can't walk or stand
- Animal is wearing a collar embedded in animal's neck or so tight it is causing a wound
- Loss of hair, scaly skin, bumps or rashes
- Severely matted fur, overgrown nails, or filthy coat
- Heavy discharge from eyes or nose
- Visible signs of confusion or extreme drowsiness
- Fleas, ticks or other external parasite infestation

#### **Environmental Signs May Include:**

- Animal is living in filthy conditions (large amounts of feces, garbage, broken glass, etc.)
- Animal is chained outside for long periods of time without adequate food, water, or shelter
- Animal is regularly left alone for long periods of time without food or water
- Animal is confined to a crate and not let outside
- Animal is kept in a cage that is too small to allow it to stand or turn around
- Home or yard is overcrowded with animals in cages/kennels
- Strong odor of urine, ammonia, fecal matter, decay, decomposition

### **Who Should I Call?**

**Use this tool to look up the phone number for your local Animal Services or Animal Control agency:**

<http://nationallinkcoalition.org/how-do-i-report-suspected-abuse/texas>

### **What Should I Say?**

Be prepared to provide your name, contact information, physical address of property, description of animal(s), and explanation of suspected harm to the animal.