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.