

ANIMAL REDEMPTION POLICY

(Effective 2/29/12)

Stray/lost animals will be released to their owners after ownership has been determined. As mandated by Wisconsin state law (Statute 173.19), the animal must be held for a seven (7) day period to allow the owner time to reclaim the animal. While the owner may redeem the animal at any time during the seven (7) day period, no one other than the owner will be allowed to claim the animal.

Wisconsin State Statute 173.19 Animals Considered Unclaimed. A political subdivision or person contracting under s. 173.15 (1) may treat any animal taken into custody under s. 173.13 (1) (a) 1., 3., 4., or 9. as an unclaimed animal subject to s. 173.23 (1m) if, within 7 days after custody is taken of the animal, it is not claimed by and returned to its owner under s. 173.23 (1), except that an animal taken into custody under s. 173.12 (1) (a) 3. Or 4. May not be treated as unclaimed if its owner files a petition under s. 173.22 (1) within 7 days after custody is taken.

Procedures:

- The owner must be of legal age and provide appropriate identification (drivers license, state ID). The owner will be required to provide proof of animal ownership such as photo of animal, vet records, or receipt of purchase.
- If someone other than the owner is picking up the redeemed animal, the owner must notify GCHS with a written request to release the animal to the person designated.
- A current rabies certificate is required before an animal can be released. If a certificate is unavailable by the owner, or the rabies vaccination has lapsed, the animal will be held until a rabies vaccination is given. An additional charge for the rabies vaccination and vet fee will be added to the redemption fee
- The owner will be charged for the length of time the animal has been at GCHS. Redemption fees are levied to help offset shelter expenses incurred in caring for the owners' animal (food, staff labor, medical expenses, shelter supplies).
- If the animal does not have proof of a current Green County license, a license fee will be paid by the owner before the animal can leave the shelter.
- The owner will be responsible for any medical expenses incurred by GCHS including treatment of injuries sustained to the animal prior to the pick up and any emergency services, vet charges, vaccinations, etc.
Before the animal can be released to its owner, all paperwork must be completed and fees paid in full.
- If an animal is claimed after seven days, the owner is responsible for a boarding fee of \$10 per day, plus the cost of vaccinations, microchip, spay/neuter surgery, and any other expenses incurred by GCHS.
- Any animal claimed after seven days is subject to the policies of GCHS and must be spayed/neutered before return to its owner.