



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 29, 2018

Animal Control Services Return to Greene County July 1

As promised to voters, Animal Control is being reinstated in Greene County effective July 1.

Due to previous budget constraints, Greene County ceased Animal Control Services in 2012. In November 2017, residents approved a ½ of one percent sales tax with the revenue generated being allotted to specific projects and services throughout the County. Thanks to this tax, Animal Control is one of the services now restored to the unincorporated urban service areas of Greene County.

Approximately \$200,000 a year will be used to fund one full-time and one part-time animal control officer as well as equipment, including a vehicle, maintenance and related supplies. The Animal Control Shelter will continue to be maintained and operated by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department.

“This is an important service and one residents indicated they wanted to see return to the County, so we are pleased to be delivering on the promise to make that happen,” said Presiding Commissioner Bob Curtin.

As part of this reinstatement, an urban animal control boundary has also been re-established that generally includes the populated areas surrounding Springfield city limits. Animal Control officers with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department will respond to calls within this area. Outside of the urban services area, they will respond to dog bite incidents only.

Officers will prioritize dog bites and other dangerous situations when receiving calls for service. While stray or lost dogs are important, wait times may be lengthy when officers are responding to other priorities, especially in the warm months, which tend to be a busy time.

As always, for help with an unsafe situation citizens should call 911. For other issues, such as missing animals or stray animal complaints, contact Animal Control at 417-833-3592.

###

Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

For additional information, contact Donna Barton, Public Information Officer, at 417-844-4311 or dlbarton@greencountymo.gov.