

33.04.99.C0.01 Non-Research Animals on University Campus and in Facilities



Approved: December 15, 2016
Next Scheduled Review: December 15, 2021

Procedure Statement

Pets and other animals are restricted in Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi facilities, grounds, and parking areas. This restriction supports the university's efforts to provide a safe work, learning, and research environment.

Reason for Procedure

This procedure helps minimize the health risks and concerns of members of the campus community and aids the maintenance, appearance, and cleanliness of campus facilities.

Definitions

Pets: A domesticated animal kept for pleasure rather than utility.

Stray Animal: Any domestic animal on campus that is not under physical restraint, i.e., leashed or caged, whether accompanied by a person or not. Service animals are not included in this definition.

Feral Animal: A once-domesticated animal that has reverted to an untamed state.

Wild Animal: A non-domesticated animal living in its natural habitat.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Animals are allowed on campus; however, they must be under physical restraint. Specific university rules and procedures may apply during special events such as concerts, athletics events, and guest speaker events.

- 1.2 Animals, other than service animals as outlined in University Procedure 08.01.01.C1.05 Service and Assistance/Emotional Support Animals on Campus, are not allowed in university buildings, with the exception of functions approved to include animals. The owner of the animal is responsible for the care and supervision of the animal (including removal of excrement), as well as for any damage or injury caused by the animal while on university property or property controlled by the university.
- 1.3 The owner or responsible party must immediately remove and properly dispose of excrement left by any animal brought to campus.
- 1.4 The university may exclude any animal from university property when that animal's behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others, disrupts the educational or administrative process, or otherwise interferes with the usual conduct of any campus function. In such cases, the owner or responsible party must remove the animal immediately.
- 1.5 An animal left unattended in a vehicle or other area and is perceived to be in distress is to be reported to the University Police Department (UPD) for appropriate response. A person who leaves an animal unattended may be reported to UPD. Any animal found unattended in, or on, any campus facility may be impounded. Owners of an impounded animal will be held responsible for payment of any impoundment and/or license fees required to secure the release of their animal.
- 1.6 The abandonment of animals on any TAMU-CC property is strictly forbidden.
- 1.7 The owner or responsible party who wishes to bring an animal on campus for a one-time display as part of a university-sanctioned event or class is required to comply with university procedures and follow the appropriate protocol for approval **prior** to bringing the animal on campus. This approval may require a certificate of insurance and animal health certificates. The owner or responsible party will be liable for any damage caused by the animal while on campus. For additional information, please contact Administrative Services at 361-825-2183.
- 1.8 It is the responsibility of Facilities Services to collect and dispose of dead animals. To report a dead animal, call the Facilities Services Department at 361-825-2324.

2. WILD, FERAL, OR STRAY ANIMALS

- 2.1 Wild animals will be left alone if no immediate threat to human safety or property is evident. If an animal is exhibiting dangerous or destructive behavior or posing an immediate threat, UPD must be notified immediately. UPD will monitor the animal until another appropriate party is contacted and arrives on the scene. If the

animal is deemed a threat and immediate intervention is required, UPD may elect to remove the threat.

- 2.2 Individuals are discouraged from feeding wild, feral, and stray animals. This includes domesticated or feral cats, raccoons, opossums, skunks, squirrels, and any/all of the fauna which occur either naturally or unnaturally on the TAMU-CC campus. This shall not apply to food left out as bait for purposes of capturing or attracting animals for animal control or for educational purposes as approved and monitored for research purposes.
- 2.3 Any person who vandalizes, removes, or deactivates an animal trap that has been set by the UPD or Facilities Services, will be in violation of this procedure and will be responsible for replacement costs, and/or subject to disciplinary action.

3. EXEMPTION TO PROCEDURE

- 3.1 This procedure applies to all animals on any TAMU-CC grounds or in any facility controlled by the university that are not related to academic needs including teaching and research as outlined in University Procedure 15.99.07.C1 Use of Vertebrate Animals in Research, Teaching, and Testing.
- 3.2 This procedure excludes:
 - (a) Law enforcement K-9 and equestrian units
 - (b) Animals used as an accommodation under law (see University Procedure 08.01.01.C1.05 Service and Assistance/Emotional Support Animals on Campus)
 - (c) Other exemptions made under special circumstances, including housing

4. TRAINING/EDUCATION/INFORMATION

Information regarding this procedure will be on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi official webpage.

5. MONITORING/REVIEWING & EVALUATING PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

Community Outreach and Student Engagement & Success will monitor the implementation of this procedure on an annual basis.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

University Rule [41.01.99.C1 Use of University Facilities](#)
University Procedure [08.01.01.C1.05 Service and Assistance/Emotional Support Animals on Campus](#)

University Procedure [15.99.07.C1 Use of Vertebrate Animals in Research, Teaching, and Testing](#)

Contact Office

Contact for clarification and interpretation: Vice President for Finance and Administration
(361)-825-2321