



**Great Falls Animal Shelter
Annual Reports – Statistics
2009-2013**

The Great Falls Animal Shelter is an open admission municipal animal shelter which serves the residents of Great Falls, Cascade County and surrounding areas. The Shelter serves an average of 1,985 animals a year. The Shelter uses many resources throughout the community to aid in the adoption of animals.

Each year the Great Falls Animal Shelter collects data relating to the animals that enter the Shelter. This document provides a snapshot of the past five years of operations.

Please note that this document includes statistics that are collected on a calendar year basis (January-December). Beginning in July of 2014, the Shelter will begin reporting statistics on a fiscal year basis (July-June), in order to be consistent with our financial reporting methods.

Annual Statistics							
Year	Total Impounded	Reclaimed	Adopted	Dead on Arrival	Died in Shelter	Euthanized	Residual*
2013	1631	443	609	57	30	418	74
2012	1720	448	701	77	24	411	59
2011	1995	450	605	52	30	798	60
2010	2282	566	593	60	33	947	83
2009	2295	485	732	43	12	984	39

*Residual – this term refers to animals that enter the Great Falls Animal Shelter during one calendar year and remain into the next.

Annual Breakdown by Percentage

Annual Breakdowns							
2009			2010			2011	
Reclaimed	21.1%		Reclaimed	24.8%		Reclaimed	22.6%
Adopted	31.9%		Adopted	26.0%		Adopted	30.3%
Dead on Arrival	1.9%		Dead on Arrival	2.6%		Dead on Arrival	2.6%
Died in Shelter	0.5%		Died in Shelter	1.4%		Died in Shelter	1.5%
Euthanized	42.9%		Euthanized	41.5%		Euthanized	40.0%
Residual	1.7%		Residual	3.6%		Residual	3.0%
Total	100.0%		Total	100.0%		Total	100.0%
2012			2013				
Reclaimed	26.0%		Reclaimed	27.2%			
Adopted	40.8%		Adopted	37.3%			
Dead on Arrival	4.5%		Dead on Arrival	3.5%			
Died in Shelter	1.4%		Died in Shelter	1.8%			
Euthanized	23.9%		Euthanized	25.6%			
Residual	3.4%		Residual	4.5%			
Total	100.0%		Total	100%			

Shelter SnapShot 2009-2013

- The average annual intake at the Shelter is 1,985.
- The average number of animals adopted each year is 648.
- The average number of animals reclaimed (returned to owners) each year is 478.
- In 2013, 64.7% of the animals entering the Shelter were either returned to their owners or adopted.
- Since 2009, the Shelter has seen an on-going increase in redemptions. Each year, the number of redemptions continues to increase. In 2009 the Shelter saw 21% of the animals returned to their owners and in 2013 over 27% were returned to owners; this is a 28% increase in redemptions!
- Adoptions were down slightly from 2012 to 2013 (40% to 37%). However, when looking at historical data, adoptions are up over a five year period (17% from 2009 to 2013).
- An increase in adoptions can be seen, from 2010 to 2013, when adoption rates jumped from 26% to 37% - an increase of 44%.
- From 2010 to 2013, euthanasia rates dropped 38%.
- In 2013 Shelter cats suffered from an upper respiratory virus (May-August) as well as feline calicivirus (October-December). Staff worked closely with the contract veterinarian to keep the cats healthy and keep the viruses under control. However, due to the serious nature of the viruses and their contagious nature; many of the cats that contracted these viruses did die or have to be euthanized, which in turn impacted the Shelter's euthanasia figures this year.
- This year, the Shelter developed a social media presence on facebook as well as implemented a number of new adoption and educational programs. A foster program was created and staff began working on a new master plan for facility improvements.
- Staff implemented a number of improved processes/protocols regarding the cleaning and handling of animals as well as triage improvements. Shelter staff also began transporting animals to vets for spay/neuter services in lieu of charging spay/neuter deposits. The Shelter also began offering payment plans when necessary for redemptions, in order to reduce owner surrenders.
- In 2013, a new Shelter manager and veterinarian technician were hired.
- The Shelter's Volunteer Program, the Shelter Sidekicks, continued to provide a valuable service to the Shelter and helped develop and implement special events, promotions and fundraisers. They assisted in walking dogs, education, messaging and creating a positive image in the community.
- A number of facility improvements were made this year - HVAC repairs were made to the office area and an improved security system was installed. In the dog kennel area new lighting was installed, noise reduction improvements were made and safety gates were installed. The drains at the Shelter were snaked/cleaned and repairs to the incinerator were made. Outside the Shelter, new landscaping and trees were installed.

Comparison Charts

