

Current COVID-19 Policies at ASCMV Updated 5/26/2021

The purpose of this statement is to list the current ASCMV policies for:

- General Information
- Animal intake
- Euthanasia
- Rescue Program
- Foster to adopt program
- Foster program
- Volunteer Program
- Vaccinations
- Spay & Neuter Program
- Medical Treatments
- Adoptions
- Animal Redemption by owner (RTO)

General Information –

All access by citizens into the ASCMV must be done via an appointment. The only exception is if you have lost your pet and have identified it online via our website www.ASCMV.org. The hours of operation are Monday – Friday 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Saturday, Sunday 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm. To make an appointment, please call 575-382-0018 during work hours.

City and County Animal Control departments have been asked to only impound sick, injured, and aggressive animals.

Due to a small lobby, only citizens doing paperwork are allowed in the lobby. Masks are required for unvaccinated individuals. Social distancing is required at the Center.

Animal intake –

City and County Animal Control departments have been asked to only impound sick, injured and aggressive animals.

The ASCMV is currently not accepting healthy stray animals from the public. The public is encouraged to hold the animal if possible, post notices and go door to door to find the owner. The ASCMV strongly urges the public to LEAVE KITTENS WHERE FOUND. (see our resource page on our website for more information.) The mother cat is often in the area, but not seen. The mortality rate of kittens in the shelter is very high. We do not recommend kittens be brought to the ASCMV.



The ASCMV will accept animals from the public that are observed as aggressive, show clinical signs of any illness and ones that are injured. If the public has a found animal and they have exhausted all options, the ASCMV will accept the animal.

The ASCMV is not accepting the surrender of healthy, non-aggressive animals. (see our resource page for more information.)

Euthanasia –

The ASCMV continues to make life saving efforts in all aspects of our services. We are not euthanizing for space. We are not euthanizing any animals automatically. Euthanasia is carefully considered by all parties involved. We strive to treat for illness prior to euthanasia. We look for a prognosis before ruling euthanasia. There are cases where animals have been euthanized prior to a wait period or stray period elapsing. However, these are done per a licensed veterinarian's recommendation based on current condition, prognosis of recovery and quality of life. The ASCMV continues to offer emergency euthanasia services for sick, injured owned animals.

Rescue Program –

The ASCMV currently sends animals to rescue organizations throughout the state of New Mexico and elsewhere. These rescue partners have been incredible to work with during these ever-changing pandemic health guidelines.

Foster to adopt program –

The foster to adopt program has been reserved for those animals adopted when they are too young, injured or ill for sterilizations. Rarely does an adopted animal leave the Center without being sterilized.

Foster program –

The ASCMV foster program is very active. Many fosters are actively trying to get their foster animal sent to rescues so they can foster more ASCMV animals. More and more foster animals are being sterilized prior to a foster or soon after being placed in a foster home. You can contact the spay neuter coordinator at SN_ASCMV@las-cruces.org for any questions you have.

Volunteer Program –

The ASCMV volunteer program is currently operating under the following:

- All volunteers **MUST** sign in and answer the COVID-19 questions, take their temp and record it the same as all employees.
- Volunteers **DO NOT** have to schedule their visits.
- Unvaccinated volunteers **MUST** always wear masks in the building.
- Volunteers **CANNOT** gather in groups larger than 20 people.
- Volunteers **MUST** practice social distancing with one another, staff and customers.



Vaccinations –

The ASCMV is currently administering vaccines to adopted animals, foster and foster to adopt animals by appointment on a limited basis. Per state law, a licensed veterinarian must be on site for a rabies vaccine to be given. The adopter is expected to make an appointment for a rabies vaccine. An appointment can be made by calling the Center at 575-382-0018. The ASCMV does not provide vaccine for publicly owned animals.

Spay and Neuter Program –

The spay and neuter program is running at full steam with a goal of 100 sterilization a week. Public sterilization appointments can be made by contact S N.A.P. at snapNM@zianet.com or contacting the ASCMV spay neuter coordinator at SN_ASCMV@las-cruces.org.

Medical Treatments –

Medical treatments for fostered and foster to adopt animals are occurring on a case-by-case basis by calling the Center and making an appointment. You can make an appointment by calling 575-382-0018. If an afterhours emergency occurs, the foster or foster to adopt can call the number listed on their foster or foster to adopt paperwork and request the on call medical center employee.

Adoption Program –

The ASCMV adoption program is still proceeding with some slight changes. A person interested in adopting an animal must find the animal on our website www.ASCMV.org, and secure the animal number. The potential adopter then calls the Center at 575-382-0018 and requests an adoption appointment. ASCMV staff will ask for the animal number. When the number is provided, they will look the animal up in our shelter software to see if there are any issues with the animal that needs to be reported to the caller. If nothing, an appointment will be made. You come at the appointed time and meet the animal. You can request up to two animals per appointment. If one (or both) animals make a connection with you, you proceed with the adoption paperwork in the lobby. If the animal is sterilized, then nothing else needs to be done. And the adoption is finalized. If the animal is NOT sterilized, the animal will stay at the center till sterilized (usually one to two days) the adopter will pick up the animal after sterilizing is completed.

Return to Owner –

The ASCMV continues to return animals to their owners during the pandemic. However, stray animal walk throughs have been suspended. All animal owners must search the impounded animals on our website at www.ASCMV.org.





If the animal owner identifies their animal, they can come to the center 8:00 am till 5:00 pm Sunday to Saturday. No appointment is needed. A staff member will walk them through the kennel to ID the animal. Masks are required to be worn by unvaccinated individuals. Social distancing is to be observed. When the animal is positively identified, the owner completes the paperwork in the lobby and the animal is redeemed.

The ASCMV hope this clarifies some of the miscommunication received by citizens, fosters, foster to adopts, and rescues during this pandemic period. However, this is a living document. It will continue to change as the health guidelines from the Governor of New Mexico changes and our plan of action for COVID-19 response changes.

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