



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY INTRODUCES VOLUNTARY DOG REGISTRATION

ANNAPOLIS CO. MARCH 01, 2010 –Mandatory dog registration will no longer be the practice in the County of Annapolis, effective April 1st. Council recently approved amendments to the A1 Dog Bylaw that says residents now have the option of paying for a one-time dog registration.

In the past, dog owners were required to register their dog(s) annually by purchasing a tag at a cost of \$15 for a spayed/neutered animal(s) or \$25 for those that were not.

“A review of the dog registration program determined it was not a cost-effective initiative,” said Annapolis County Warden Peter Newton. “However, Council felt it was still important to offer a service that allowed dog owners to keep their pets safe and accounted for. A one-time, voluntary dog registration system seemed to be the best solution.”

Tags that were purchased in 2009 are accepted under the amended bylaw, so a new tag is not necessary. However, it should be noted if an additional dog is brought into the family, and the owner wants it recorded in the county’s dog registration program, a new tag must be purchased at the one-time cost of \$25. For the dog registration program to work efficiently, each dog in a residence must have its own tag for identification purposes.

Also, it is the pet owner’s responsibility to contact a municipal office if a tag is being transferred to a different dog within the home. The description of the dog must match the tag number. This is also true if a dog owner moves to a new address within the County of Annapolis. It is his/her responsibility to contact a municipal office with this information so files may be updated.

Dog tags are available for purchase at the municipal offices in Annapolis Royal and Lawrencetown at the one-time cost of \$25.

Anyone with questions pertaining to dog registration or need to update information as mentioned above may call 532-2331 or 584-2255.