

Schedule of Training

Day 1

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

State Laws, County Ordinances and City Codes; Understanding the ADA and Service Animals; Sovereign Citizens; Challenging Encounters in Animal Control

Day 2

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Tactical/Interpersonal Communication; Officer Safety and Self-Defense

Day 3

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations; Evidence Law and Collection; Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing

Day 4

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Safe Handling of Aggressive and Dangerous Dogs; Safe Animal Handling/Capture & Restraint Equipment; Illegal Animal Fighting

Day 5

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Investigative Techniques for Cruelty and Neglect Complaints; Animal Hoarding Investigations

Each Day: 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Lunch — on your own

ACTS
Animal Control Training Services

The ACTS Training Course costs just \$595 for the complete 5-day course; \$150 for any single day of registration. You may pay for this training program either with an Agency Check, Personal Check, Purchase Order or Credit Card. To obtain a registration form for this course, please visit www.aco-acts.com. Questions? Contact ACTS at 913-515-0080 or via email at info@aco-acts.com. Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation letter via e-mail.

Class location: Kootenai County Sheriff's Office Search & Rescue, 10865 N. Ramsey Road, Hayden, Idaho 83835. Need directions? Please call 208-446-1899 or 208-446-2224.

ACTS
Animal Control Training Services

Animal Control Training Services
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**Training Course
for Animal Control
Professionals**

March 16-20, 2020

Hayden, Idaho

ACTS
Animal Control Training Services

Day 1

State Laws, County Ordinances and City Codes – This training provides the foundation for successful animal control programs. The course is designed to establish a working knowledge and understanding of the specific laws relating to animal control and field services. ACO's will be better prepared to interpret, apply and enforce the provisions of their department. The course will help clarify and define the role and authority of an Animal Control Officer.

Understanding the ADA and Service Animals – This training provides background, knowledge and understanding relating to the Americans with Disabilities Act, Service Animals and state laws related to control and licensing for these animals. The topics include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for government agencies, rights and regulations for service animals, federal and state laws for service animals, and requirements for handling service animals for agencies.

Sovereign Citizens – A frightening trend confronting law enforcement, including animal control, involves individuals claiming exemption from the laws of the land. Also known as "travelers" or "free citizens", these persons pose a serious threat to officer safety and unique challenges to enforcement action. Students will be exposed to the tactics, philosophy and actions of this movement including how to identify involved individuals.

Challenging Encounters in Animal Control – Animal Control Officers encounter a variety of animal "interested" groups and individuals. Dealing with these people can present obstacles to education, enforcement and achieving compliance. Students will be provided with ideas on how to safely and effectively interact with a variety of persons in the animal realm.

Day 2

Tactical/Interpersonal Communication – What is the goal of an Animal Control Officer during a contact? Answer: "generate voluntary compliance." The ability to communicate effectively is vital for the ACO. The tactical communications course is specifically designed for the work of an ACO when dealing with stressful and emotional situations. The training provides a structured dialogue that can be used toward conflict resolution, enforcement and education, diffusing hostile situations and achieving a positive outcome. The course focuses on professional service, positive public relations, reducing liability and enhancing officer safety.

Officer Safety and Self-Defense – Whether you work in an urban or rural setting, or both, Animal Control Officers are exposed to situations that can be potentially dangerous concerning officer safety. The course covers the areas of situational awareness, contact considerations, threat assessment, use of force options, legal concepts, control and defense tactics, use of personal body weapons, position of interview and self-defense, footwork and physical body dynamics.

Day 3

Basic Animal Control Officer Investigations – This course will detail the role of the Animal Control Officer in performing investigations and to identify the common types of investigations and variations between them. Participants will become familiar with scene assessment and the common tools and resources used in investigation procedures and case development. Complaint procedures, interview techniques and the types of forms and reports used for documentation will also be explained.

Evidence Law and Collection – Animal Control Officers must know the criteria for lawfully obtaining, preserving and admitting evidence to ensure evidence is identified, collected and presented in a legal manner that will be accepted in court. This block of instruction focuses on identifying the lawful process and

rules governing the admission and exclusion of evidence as it relates to Animal Control criminal trials. ACO's will also learn the basic methods and equipment that are used in the field to collect and preserve Animal Control-related evidence.

Courtroom Testimony and Report Writing – When should court preparation start? What should be done on the day of court? This block of instruction will focus on courtroom preparation and testimony from the initial call until the court date. This course also includes instruction on how to write fact-based, unbiased, clear, grammatical reports as a record of the event and a tool for prosecution.

Day 4

Safe Handling of Aggressive and Dangerous Dogs – Potentially dangerous and vicious dogs have become a serious and widespread threat to the safety and welfare of citizens and to domestic animals as well. ACTS has developed a course specifically for ACO's relating to the safe response, handling and capture of dangerous and vicious dogs. Participants will gain a working knowledge of dog breed history and aggression, stimulus response/critical distance, behavior drives/instincts, dog characteristics/body language, safety equipment/handling considerations.

Safe Animal Handling/Capture & Restraint Equipment – Every day is a different day for an ACO. One of the most unique aspects of the ACO position is that of working with the wide variety of animal species and situations. Safe animal capture and handling is extremely important in order to protect the safety of the officer, the public and the animal. This block of instruction covers the skills and equipment that are necessary when dealing with domestic animals, wildlife, exotics and livestock. This practical course focuses on the animal species commonly handled by ACO's, injury prevention, dangers and risks, capture and restraint methods, equipment, safe loading and transportation.

Illegal Animal Fighting – The illegal animal fighting workshop addresses both dog fighting and cockfighting activity. The course covers officer safety considerations, the history of animal fighting, applicable state and federal laws, search warrants and warrantless entries, investigation techniques, evidence collection and impoundment of animals, agency and task force coordination for successful case prosecution.

Day 5

Investigative Techniques for Cruelty and Neglect Complaints – Students in this course will learn techniques to improve ability to investigate and prepare cases regarding cruelty and neglect situations encountered in the field. Students will learn how to determine a valid complaint, determining how situation fits elements of the law, how to identify a potential crime scene, how to secure it to avoid contamination, Tufts Animal Care and Condition (TACC)/Purina Assessment Scaling, identifying exigent circumstances, importance of narrative reports, veterinary examinations, scene documentation, and preparing case files and suggested possible charges for the prosecutor.

Animal Hoarding Investigations – A compulsive hoarder may often accumulate a large number of animals, failing to provide minimal standards of nutrition, sanitation and vet care, and fails to act on the deteriorating condition of the animals, the environment, or the negative impact on their own health and wellbeing. Students will develop an understanding on how to document the scene for possible cruelty or neglect; evaluate possible intervention strategies including criminal, civil and regulatory and mental health; the need to prepare for a pre-boarding event or large scale rescue sheltering plan; and how laws restricting the number of animals can be effective tools.