

**ANIMAL CARE SPECIALIST****NATURE OF WORK**

This is manual work in the care and feeding of impounded animals at the County's Animal Care and Control facility.

An employee in a position allocated to this class feeds, handles and provides custodial care with compassion to a variety of animals as well as performing tasks relative to the general care and maintenance of buildings and grounds. Instructions are received orally and in writing; routine tasks are performed with considerable independence. Work is subject to inspection while in progress and upon completion.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Cleans and disinfects kennels, cages, carriers, stalls and night drop.

Picks up and washes feed pans, water bowls and buckets.

Feeds animals on a regular schedule; maintains ample fresh water supply.

Observes the general health conditions of animals; reports symptoms of common animal diseases.

Makes routine inspection of all cages for the safety of the animals.

Photographs and cases animals into the computer via night drop.

Assists at the clinic processing animals for adoption.

Assists veterinarian with exams.

Educates the public on the care and maintenance of their new pet.

Loads, operates and cleans the incinerator.

Conducts computer checks prior to euthanasia and physically holds animals for euthanasia.

Assists in general maintenance: weeds, rakes, plants and trims hedges.

Maintains an inventory of all animals at the facility by an inventory report.

Maintains an inventory of all bite animals at the facility by a bite inventory report.

Handles intake of animals into facility and routes them to the proper area.

Washes large quantities of laundry that are often contagious and contaminated.

Assists the large animal veterinarian and the Blacksmith with the livestock.

Participates in the auction of the livestock and exotic animals.

Receives large quantities of items donated by the public and distributes as required.

Performs related work as required.

**ANIMAL CARE SPECIALIST - CONT'D****REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

Some knowledge of the custodial care of domestic animals.  
Ability to recognize symptoms of common animal diseases.  
Ability to identify animal breeds.  
Ability to handle or restrain large and sometimes dangerous animals.  
Ability to comprehend and follow instructions both orally and in writing.  
Sufficient physical strength and agility to perform assigned tasks.

**MINIMUM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Graduation from high school or an equivalent recognized certification; and six (6) months experience in the care and handling of animals in a personal or work capacity; or any equivalent combination of related training and experience.

**NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Required to complete incinerator operator training within six (6) months of hire.

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