

Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council Minutes**Monday, July 7, 2025 – 7:00pm-9:00pm**

One Justice Square; Webex

Present: Jeanne Aulbach, Gail LaBerge, Erin Martin, Nahum Nicholas, Christina Westmeyer,
Dr. Tameka Womack (7:05pm)**Absent:** B Thassanee Gutter-Parker

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome / Announcements
3. Approval of Agenda
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Nicholas: Vote: (5-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Westmeyer-Yes}
4. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2025
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Martin: Vote: (5-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Westmeyer-Yes}
5. Animal Welfare & Enforcement Updates
 - Updates from the Director
 - Center Operations
 - Special Operations
 - Field Operations
 - Medical Services and Intake Operations
 - Fosters
 - Community Outreach
6. Old Business
 - Report on feasibility of the shelter remaining open late one day a week for reclaims and adoptions.
7. New Business
 - Rescue emails
 - Relationships with rescues
 - Community Cat program
 - Open Records Requests

The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to add a presentation on open records from the Law Department for the next meeting.

{Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Aulbach: Vote: (6-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Westmeyer-Yes; Womack-Yes}

- Statistics presented to council
- The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to determine which routine statistics and impact data they would like presented verbally during regular meetings, and which additional data they prefer included as a handout in the agenda packet for reference. The committee will provide their recommendations to the division by the next meeting.
{Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Aulbach; Vote: (6-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Westmeyer-Yes; Womack-Yes}

8. Public Comments

9. Adjournment

- {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Womack; Vote: (6-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Westmeyer-Yes; Womack-Yes}

Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council

July 7, 2025



Director Updates

Katrina.Helman@GwinnettCounty.com
678.226.7729



Construction Update

- First phase includes the front parking lot, intake area, and new education room
- Front parking lot closed through August
- No public access before 7:30am
- Public parking available behind the center; limited temporary spaces in front
- Temporary main entrance and visitor sign-in located in the back parking lot near bonding pens
- Staff onsite to direct traffic



Georgia Animal Related Legislative Passed Bills

- [HB 331](#): Prohibits the sale/barter of dogs, cats, and rabbits in unregulated public locations (e.g., parking lots, roadsides). Exempts licensed shelters/rescues and allows certain prearranged transfers.
- [HB 177](#): Extends protective orders in domestic violence cases to include household pets.



Center Visitor Analytics April – June 2025

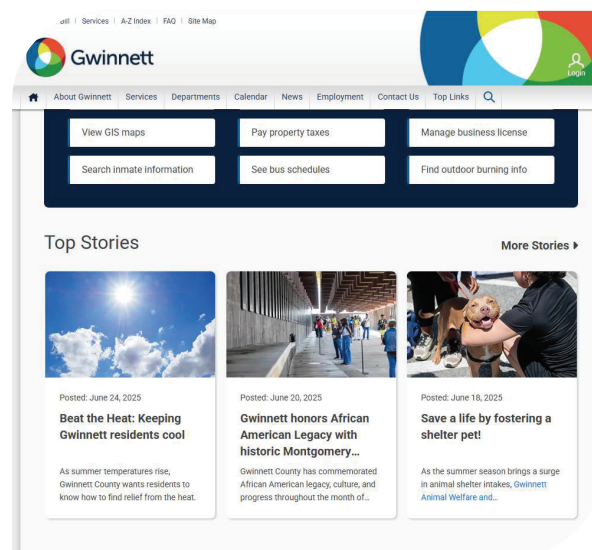
5,283 Center Visitors

- 140 – Google
- 112 – Other (*previous adopter, drove by/live nearby, County employee, etc.*)
- 109 – Word of Mouth
- 76 – Social Media

375 Adoptions

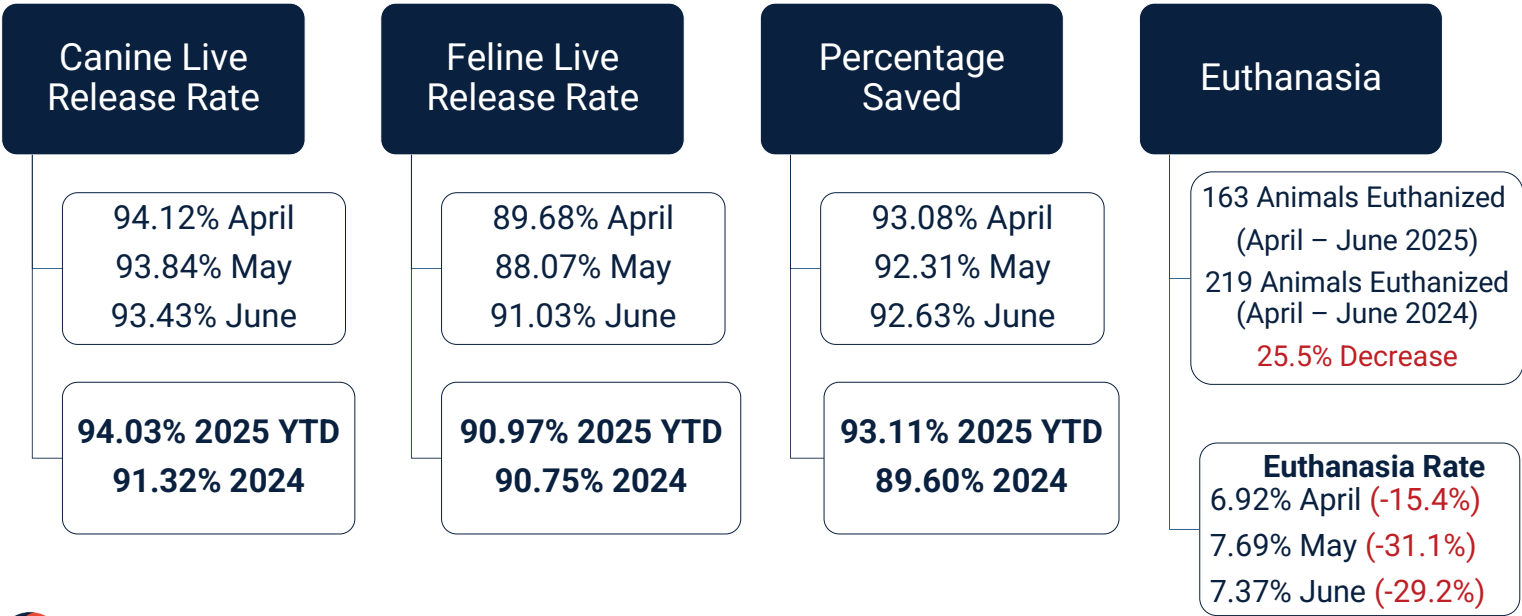
- 82 – Pitt Bull types
- 25 – Labrador types
- 24 – Shepherd types
- Yappy Hour: 0 Adoptions

154 Return to Owners



Center Operations

April – June 2025



Shelter Operating Hours

Adoption Center Hours

- Monday – Thursday: 11:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday – Saturday: 11:00am – 4:00pm
- 1st Monday of each month: 11:00am – 8:00pm

Animal Intake Hours

- Owner surrender – by appointment only
- Monday – Thursday: 11:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday – Saturday: 11:00am – 3:00pm

Road Operations

- 7 Days a week 8:00am – 10:00pm
- 7 Days a week Emergency On-Call 10:00pm – 8:00am



Evening Visitor and Adoption Metrics

Shelter Visitors Monday – Thursday

- 378 Visitors between 4:00pm – 5:00pm (January – June 2025)
 - Average three visitors per day
- 136 Adoptions during this time frame
 - Average one adoption per day

Yappy Hour Attendance and Impact (December 2024 – June 2025)

- 15 Attendees
- 1 Adoption



Assessing Expansion of Service Hours & Days

- Animal Hold Periods
- Ongoing Construction
- Operational Support
- Contract and Service Limitations

Center Operations

Angela.Hutchins@GwinnettCounty.com



Animals in Our Care (July 6, 2025)

SPECIES	ADOPTED - AWAITING SPAY/NEUTER	AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION	AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION - AWAITING SPAY/NEUTER	AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION - IN FOSTER	AWAITING BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT	AWAITING FOSTER	AWAITING RESCUE	AWAITING TRIAGE	AWAITING VET EXAM/HEALTH CHECK	BITE QUARANTINE	HOLD IN FOSTER	IN FOSTER	OWNER RELINQUISHMENT	PROTECTIVE CUSTODY IN FOSTER	PROTECTIVE CUSTODY/HOLD	TRANSFER OUT - AWAITING PICK UP	UNDER VET CARE	TOTAL BY SPECIES
CAT	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	37
DOG	0	118	3	11	6	1	0	3	0	4	1	0	3	5	20	0	0	175
KITTEN	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	21	0	0	0	0	1	7	64
PUPPY	0	9	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	8	0	2	0	0	31
FERRET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GUINEA PIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
RABBIT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RODENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FISH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FOWL	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
DOMESTIC BIRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HORSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GOAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHEEP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REPTILE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL BY CATEGORY	4	179	7	12	6	1	0	3	14	4	31	0	11	6	24	1	9	312

Animal Enrichment & Assessments April – June 2025

- 1,056 Hours (Dogs)
 - 425 dogs in enrichment activities (average of 2.48 hours per dog)
- 36.5 Hours (Cats)
 - 73 cats in enrichment activities
- 63 Assessments Conducted
 - 21 Assessment Hours
- 25.5 Hours of Additional Volunteer Enrichment
- 19 Dogs in outreach activities



Special Operations

Michael.Chatham@GwinnettCounty.com



Dangerous/Vicious Hearing Board April – June 2025

Dangerous Dogs	Vicious Dogs
8 Dangerous dog cases (0 hearings pending)	7 Vicious dog case (1 hearing pending)
4 Dog declared dangerous	4 Dog declared as vicious
4 Cases pending/investigation	2 Cases pending/investigation

Rescues, Neglect, Court, & Probation

April – June 2025

	April – June 2025	April – June 2024	2025 YTD
Sent to a Rescue*	197	186	305
Neglect Cases	61	101	366
Court & Probation	503 Citations	300 Citations	863 Citations
	85 Probation Checks	98 Probation Checks	149 Probation Checks

**Collaborated with 39 different rescues from April – June 2025*

Rescue Pleas

April – June 2025

Received a Rescue Plea	Adopted	Fostered	Euthanized	Total Sent to/ Pulled for Rescue
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 56 Dogs• 44 Cats• 100 Total <i>Multiple pleas sent</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14 Dogs• 2 Cat• 16 Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Dogs• 0 Cats• 3 Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 Dogs• 2 Cats• 9 Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 58 Dogs• 105 Cats• 3 Other• 166 Total

Bites and Rabies Comparison

April – June 2025

	April – June 2025	April – June 2024	2025 YTD
Animal Bites	78	57	408
Positive Rabies Cases	0	1	2

Field Operations

Ira.Tolbert@GwinnettCounty.com



Field Operations April – June 2025

	April – June 2025	April – June 2024	YTD for 2025
Animals Saved	1,636	1,711	2,885
Calls for Service	5,798	5,262	10,758
Returned in Field	144	168	251
Citations Issued	503	300	863
Picked up on Road	949	858	1,596
Dead Animals	447	344	789

Medical Services & Intake Operations

Brittany.Arnold@GwinnettCounty.com



Return to Community Cat Program

April – June 2025

Month	2025	2024	YTD for 2025
April	97	171	575
May	99	175	
June	123	178	
Grand Total	319	524	
Available Spots Filled	61.35%	N/A	60.91%

Owner Surrender Emails Received April – June 2025

Month	April – June 2025	April – June 2024	Percentage Change	YTD for 2025
April	209	190	+10%	1,176
May	213	200	+6.5%	
June	210	219	-4.1%	
Grand Total	632	609	+3.7%	

April – June 2025: 98 Animals accepted from approved requests

Foster Program

April – June 2025

	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	April – June 2024	2025 YTD
Adopted by Foster	7	13	18	22	38
Sent to Foster	106	147	147	342	400
New Fosters	9	11	10	31	48
Home Visits	19	15	10	45	79
Foster Hours	6,536	5,732	2,284	46,650	34,768

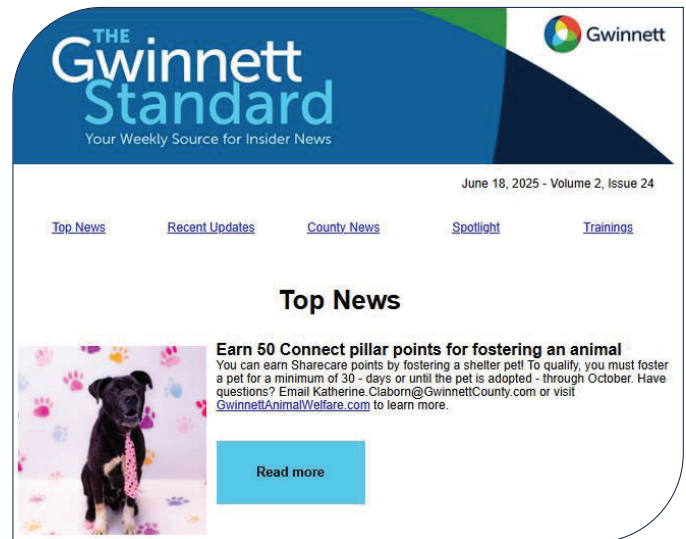
Community Outreach

Lisa.Howell@GwinnettCounty.com



Program Updates

- Volunteer Kennel Animal Report Card
- Dear Tabby
- Countywide Employee Promotion
- Food Assistance Program
 - Over 1 Ton of pet food distributed
 - Nearly 90 animals helped



Events, Appearances & Outreach

Special Events

- April 26: Purrs and Paws, A Kitten Shower
- May 3: May the Woof Be With You
- Animal Ambassador Camps
- Yappy Hour: (Clicker Training, Pet Emergency Preparedness, and Obedience Class for Fosters)

Community Appearances

- May 17: Multi-Cultural Festival
- June 10: Mobile Food Distribution at Rock Springs Park; over 3000lbs food handed out

Partnerships and Outreach

- Paws and Pastries
- Gwinnett Co Employee/Family 5K Adoption Event

Upcoming Events & Promotions

- **July 7:** Yappy Hour: Paws on the Red Carpet
- **July 12:** Pet Supplies Plus Adoption Event; Noon – 2:00pm
- **July 19:** Back-to-School Bash
- **August 4:** Yappy Hour – Homework, Hugs, and Pets
- **August 16:** Magic S.T.E.A.M Bus at the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center
- **September 13:** Paws in the Park, 11:00am – 1:00pm at Lenora Park



Gwinnett County Ordinances



Thank You

GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com
@GwinnettAnimalWelfare