



# CITY OF HORSESHOE BAY

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Animal Trapping Information

The City of Horseshoe Bay provides Animal Control Services to the community. The department employs one full time Animal Control Officer (ACO) supplemented by one part time ACO who handles Animal calls on a very limited basis for weekends and holidays.

The City owns and operates a large number of various traps for the convenience of the citizens. By State law, these traps must be checked on a daily basis.

In addition to the City owned traps, many citizens have begun purchasing and operating their own personal traps. ACO's will continue to respond to those calls as often as possible, however persons operating personally owned traps should be aware of the following:

- ACO's do not have sufficient time on weekends and holidays to handle all city owned traps AND respond to calls for personally owned traps. *Thus, ACO's can no longer respond to personally owned traps for captured animals that occur on weekends or on holidays.*
- If you are operating a personally owned trap, by Texas law you are responsible the safety and well-being of an animal trapped after normal operating hours or on weekends and holidays.
- Under the Texas Penal Code, the offense of cruelty to animals is not limited to only domesticated animals but also extends to wild animals. A violation of this law is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor.

If you own or are considering purchasing your own trap, please be aware that we will make every effort to make a proper disposition of a trapped animal, however the ultimate responsibility for the safety and well-being of a trapped animal rests with the person who owns and/or operates the trap.