



# The Delaware Office of Animal Welfare

The Office of Animal Welfare (OAW), established in 2013, protects the health, safety, and welfare of companion animals, and promotes the human-animal bond in the state of Delaware. An agency of the Division of Public Health, the OAW coordinates programs and policies that protect animals from abuse and neglect, reduce pet homelessness, and improve the quality of care provided by shelters, rescues, and foster care systems. The office works in partnership with all levels of government, animal control providers, and animal welfare organizations to address emerging issues for the protection of animals and the public.

## **MISSION:**

The Office of Animal Welfare is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of companion animals, and dedicated to promoting the human-animal bond in the state of Delaware.

## **KEY PROGRAMS:**

- Delaware Animal Services (DAS) – enforcing animal control, cruelty and rabies control statewide.
- State Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Program
- Animal License Plate fund
- Animal Shelter Standards oversight
- Delaware Animal Response (DAR) - Disaster preparedness and response
- Animal Welfare Officer certification
- Euthanasia Technician certification

