
The following definitions apply in this Part:

(1) Animal Control Officer. – A city or county employee whose responsibility includes animal control. The term "Animal Control Officer" also includes agents of a private organization that is operating an animal shelter under contract with a city or county whenever those agents are performing animal control functions at the shelter.

(2) Cat. – A domestic feline of the genus and species Felis catus.

(3) Certified rabies vaccinator. – A person appointed and certified to administer rabies vaccine to animals in accordance with this Part.

(4) Dog. – A domestic canine of the genus, species, and subspecies Canis lupus familiaris.

(4a) Feral. – An animal that is not socialized.

(4b) Ferret. – A domestic mammal of the genus, species, and subspecies Mustela putorius furo.

(5) Rabies vaccine. – An animal rabies vaccine licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture and approved for use in this State by the Commission.

(6) State Public Heath Veterinarian. – A person appointed by the Secretary to direct the State public health veterinary program.

(6a) Stray. – An animal that meets both of the following conditions:
   a. Is beyond the limits of confinement or lost.
   b. Is not wearing any tags, microchips, tattoos, or other methods of identification.

(7) Vaccination. – The administration of rabies vaccine by a person authorized to administer it under G.S. 130A-185. (1935, c. 122, s. 1; 1949, c. 645, s. 1; 1953, c. 876, s. 1; 1957, c. 1357, s. 3; 1973, c. 476, s. 128; 1983, c. 891, s. 2; 2009-304, s. 2; 2009-327, s. 1.)