

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The Animal inspector has two functions: Issue quarantines and perform yearly inspections of barns and livestock.

Quarantines are issued for any wound that breaks the skin of a person or domestic animal. Such wounds or abrasions can be caused by dog bites, dog scratches, cat bites, or cat scratches. Any wounds of unknown origin sustained by dogs and cats, and wounds known to be from specific wildlife also require a period of quarantine.

Quarantines differ as to length of quarantine and conditions of confinement.

Dog or Cat Bite/Scratch: Animal is quarantined for 10 days

Wound of Unknown Origin/Known Wildlife: If pet has current rabies vaccination, it must be given a rabies booster immediately and quarantined for forty-five (45) days.

If the pet's rabies vaccination is not current, the animal is placed in a six (6) month quarantine, and is given a rabies shot after five (5) months.

If a pet was bitten by wildlife and that animal is trapped or killed, it may be tested for rabies. If you attempt to shoot wildlife that threatens to, or actually attacks your pet, be sure to avoid shooting the head, as the brain is the only organ that reveals whether or not an animal is rabid. Unless you are very confident of your shooting skills, be safe and contact the Police Department for assistance.

A yearly count of livestock is required by the Bureau of Animal Health in Boston. The following animals are included in the count: Cattle, Goats, Sheep, Pigs, Llamas, Alpacas, Horses, Ponies, Donkeys, Rabbits, Waterfowl, Game birds, Chickens, and Turkeys.