

YOLO COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
PRESS RELEASE

Re:	Parvovirus information
Date:	July 22, 2008

Contact: Michele Wallace, Public Information Officer (530) 406-5163

The Yolo County Sheriff's Department, Animal Services Section wants to increase public awareness regarding an increase in cases of animals with parvovirus and distemper in Yolo County. The majority of cases have been found in Woodland and West Sacramento. The shelter has had 5 cases of parvovirus within the last month. There are currently no cases of this disease at the shelter, but it is important to be aware of and be attentive to your pet's disposition and behavior.

The parvovirus affects the intestinal tract and causes vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration. It is an airborne virus obtained through contact with animals with the disease. The virus can also be obtained from the soil where a diseased animal may have been.

Distemper is also an airborne virus that affects dogs. There is no danger to other pets, or to humans, however it has been known to be carried by raccoons. It often begins with a cough or runny nose, resembling kennel cough.

Some minor cases of these diseases are able to be treated. In extreme cases the animal would need to be euthanized. These diseases are preventable if you have your pet vaccinated. The Yolo County Animal Shelter offers a vaccination clinic on the second, third, and fourth Saturday of each month. Please check the Yolo County Sheriff's Department website for times and fees.

Animal Services also advises that their night deposit boxes in the front of their shelter are closed and will remain closed due to California State legislation. It is illegal to leave an animal abandoned without care. At this time no one is on duty at the shelter during the overnight hours to receive the animal and to assist animals that are sick or injured which would require immediate attention.

If you find a stray animal after hours, you have a couple of options. If the animal is healthy, Animal Services request that you keep the animal overnight, and then bring it to the shelter during normal business hours. If you feel that you are unable to care for the animal, or if it is sick or diseased, you are requested to contact your local law enforcement office who will work with you to have the animal taken to the shelter. The Yolo County Animal Shelter is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.; then from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. It is open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.; then from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. The shelter is closed on Sundays and Mondays. A Yolo County Animal Services Officer is on duty from eight in the morning

until eight at night. After hours the shelter has an Animal Services Officer on call for emergency services.

Sheriff Prieto stated, "The shelter wants to find good homes for the animals which in turn bring joy to their owners. We're fortunate to have one of the few shelters in California that has a veterinary staff on the premises who check the health of each animal brought to the shelter, and treats those in need before they are eligible to be adopted."

For more information about the shelter and to answer questions about pet adoptions and vaccination clinic times and cost look at the Yolo County Sheriff's website at [www.yolocountysheriff.com](http://www.yolocountysheriff.com) then click on 'Animal Services'. You can also visit Yolo County Animal Services located at 2640 East Gibson Road in Woodland.