



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Division of Animal & Food Industry Services

Office of Veterinary Services

P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, Virginia 23218

Phone: 804-692-4001 Fax: 804-371-2380 Hearing Impaired: 800-828-1120

www.vdacs.virginia.gov

Joseph W. Guthrie
Commissioner

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

June 27, 2025

To: Ken Larking, City Manager
City of Danville
P.O. Box 3300
Danville, VA 24543

On May 21, 2025, I inspected the **Danville Public Animal Shelter**. This inspection was conducted in order to evaluate compliance with the Virginia Comprehensive Animal Care laws, as well as pursuant regulations and directives. Please find attached the **Animal Shelter Inspection Summary** and the **Animal Shelter Inspection Form** (a copy of which was left on site at the conclusion of the inspection). This inspection report is being issued to you as the representative of the local governing body as referenced in Virginia Code section §3.2-6546. The result of this inspection is as follows:

☐ **There were no significant findings of violation.**

☒ **There were findings of non-critical violation.**

A description of the findings is included on the attached "**Animal Shelter Inspection Summary**".

Failure to correct the violation(s) may result in referral of this case for enforcement action. You may submit a written response to this inspection, providing an update on actions taken or planned in order to achieve compliance, for consideration in the process of future inspections, enforcement, and civil penalty assessment.

In accordance with the applicable civil penalty matrix, these violations are regarded as "first non-critical violation" (the first cited non-critical noncompliance with the Code of Virginia or Virginia Administrative Code found upon an animal shelter inspection by an inspector within the preceding five calendar years). The "Comprehensive Animal Care Law and Related Regulations Civil Penalty Matrix" can be found online at: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/Civil-Penalty-Matrix.pdf>

☐ **There were findings of critical violation and/or repeat non-critical violation.** This case has been referred for determination of civil penalty assessment. You will be issued a notification package by the State Veterinarian's Representative handling your case, which will include further details and instructions.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at 804-692-4001 or sherry.helsel@vdacs.virginia.gov.

Respectfully,

Sherry Helsel, LVT
Animal Care Inspector Senior



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND
CONSUMER SERVICES

DIVISION OF ANIMAL & FOOD INDUSTRY SERVICES
OFFICE OF VETERINARY SERVICES – ANIMAL CARE
P.O. BOX 1163
RICHMOND, VA 23218
804-692-4001

ANIMAL SHELTER INSPECTION SUMMARY

Facility Name/ID: Danville
Public Animal Shelter

Unannounced Inspection

Date: 5/21/25

Facility Physical Address:

996 South Boston Road
Danville, VA 24540

Facility Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 3352
Danville, VA 24543

Facility Telephone Number:

434-799-0843

Facility Email Address:

dahsinc@yahoo.com

Type of Facility:

Public Animal Shelter

Owned By:

Local Governing Body

Operated By:

Incorporated Humane Society

Facility Designation:

Entire Building

Weekly Hours of Public Access:

Monday – Friday: 12:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Contractual Agreements:

Facility operated by Danville Area Humane Society, Inc.

Facility Supervisor:

Paulette Dean

Facility Supervisor Email Address:

Number of Dogs on Site:

~50

Number of Cats on Site:

~25

Number of Other Companion Animals on Site:

~15

Responsible Authority Name, Title, and Address:

Ken Larking, City Manager
City of Danville
P.O. Box 3300
Danville, VA 24543

NARRATIVE SUMMARY (if applicable):

INSPECTION FINDINGS

2 VAC 5
111-30 (B)

Non-Critical Violation: The shelter had not adhered to the veterinarian's protocol for the control of contagious and infectious disease and had not maintained the dog isolation room for animals suffering from contagious or infectious disease. Dog ID 40387 was exhibiting a potentially contagious skin condition (noted as "mange" on its animal custody record) and was housed in the general housing area. The room marked for "Isolation" was not maintained as such and was unavailable for this purpose, as it was in general use for a dog and her five puppies. This is the first citation of a violation of this code section within the preceding five calendar years.



Veterinarian Name: Laura Dover Luffness Date: 2/15/24
Signature: *Laura Luffness*

Animal Intake

1. Upon arrival at the animal shelter, each animal will be examined for any obvious signs of illness or injury. Any abnormalities, signs, or symptoms will be noted on the intake and the shelter manager will be informed. The shelter manager will decide if the animal needs immediate veterinary care.
2. Any animal showing signs of a potentially infectious/contagious disease will be immediately housed individually in a thoroughly clean, disinfected, and dry cage or run in the marked isolation rooms. The exceptions to being housed individually are nursing litters or puppies with their mother or animals that have come in from the same address and have the same symptoms or signs.
3. Any animal not showing any signs of potentially infectious/contagious disease will be housed individually (unless nursing babies with mother or animal arriving with and already accustomed to cohabitation with another specific animal).



State Veterinarian's Representative

Name: Sherry Helsel, LVT

Title: Animal Care Inspector Senior

Signature:

Sherry Helsel

Date: 6/27/25



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ANIMAL SHELTER INSPECTION FORM

Facility Name/ID: <i>Danville Public Animal Shelter</i>	Date: <i>5/21/25</i>
	Time: <i>12:30p</i>

Elements of Inspection

1) Animals on premises.	☒ Inspected ☐ Not Inspected – Explain:
2) Animal enclosures.	☒ Inspected ☐ Not Inspected – Explain:
3) Areas of facility.	☒ Inspected ☐ Not Inspected – Explain:
4) Method of animal euthanasia.	☒ Inspected ☐ Not Inspected – Explain:
5) Other (specify or indicate "N/A"): <i>N/A</i>	

Results of Inspection

☐ No Violations Cited

☒ Violation(s) Cited (Details of each violation will be provided in an Inspection Summary, included in the Inspection Report, and mailed to the responsible authority. The Inspection Report will also include information regarding questions or submission of a response upon receipt of the report.)

☐ 3.2-6503	☐ 3.2-6574	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-30 (A)	☐ 2 VAC 5-150-120
☐ 3.2-6546 (B)	☐ 3.2-6575	☒ 2 VAC 5-111-30 (B)	☐ 2 VAC 5-150-130
☐ 3.2-6546 (C)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-20 (A)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-30 (C)	☐ 2 VAC 5-150-140
☐ 3.2-6546 (D)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-20 (B)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-40 (A)	
☐ 3.2-6546 (E)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-20 (C)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-40 (B)	☐ _____
☐ 3.2-6548 (C)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-20 (D)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-40 (C)	
☐ 3.2-6557 (B)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-20 (E)	☐ 2 VAC 5-111-40 (D)	☐ _____

Reference Materials Provided

☒ Virginia Administrative Code, Title 2, Agency 5, Chapter 111 "Public and Private Animal Shelters"

☐ Virginia Administrative Code, Title 2, Agency 5, Chapter 150 "Rules and Regulations Governing the Transportation of Companion Animals"

☐ VDACS Guidance Document "Guidelines Governing the Veterinary Protocols Required by Virginia Administrative Code 2 VAC 5-111-30"

☐ Division Administrative Directive 79-1 "Methods Prescribed or Approved for Animal Euthanasia and Competency Certification Requirements"

☐ VDACS Form "Animal Custody Record"

☐ Virginia Animal Shelter Civil Penalty Matrix – Guidelines for Enforcement

☐ Other (Specify):

State Veterinarian's Representative

Name: <i>Sherry Helsel LVT</i>	Signature: <i>Sherry Helsel</i>
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REVIEWED WITH: Printed Name *Paulette Dean*

Signature *Paulette Dean* Date *5-21-2025*