

# TELLER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## REMOVAL OF DOWNED OR DEAD ANIMALS FROM THE COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY

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**PURPOSE:** To establish a procedure and responsibilities for the removal of dead animals from the County right-of-way.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** All Teller County Department of Transportation and Teller County Sheriff's Office personnel are responsible for the compliance with this procedure.

**GENERAL:** Dead animals on or in the County right-of-way present a hazard to the traveling public, as well as creating a health and safety issue, therefore, actions shall be taken as soon as possible to remove these hazards from the County's right-of-way.

### **PROCEDURE:**

1. Any call/request concerning any downed or dead animal(s) on State Highway Right-of-Way will be referred to the Colorado Department of Transportation at 576-1868.
2. Any call/request concerning any downed or dead animal(s) on Teller County Right-of-way will be handled through the Teller County Sheriff's Office.
3. Any and all telephone calls or requests to the Department of Transportation concerning any downed or dead animals shall be forwarded to the Sheriff's Department Dispatch at 687-9652.
4. Any telephone call regarding any dead animal made directly to the Department of Transportation shall be referred to the Sheriff's Department.
5. The Sheriff's Department shall contact the correct entity in the following order:
  - a. All calls/requests concerning, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bear, mountain lion and bobcats that has been downed or killed on a Teller County Roadway, the Teller County Sheriff's Office will first contact the Colorado State Division of Wildlife. The Teller County Department of Transportation will only be notified for collection and disposal of these animals if requested to do so by the Division of Wildlife.

- b. All calls/requests concerning a large domestic animal, such as a cow or horse that has been downed or killed on a County right-of-way, the Teller County Sheriffs office will attempt to contact the owner of the animal(s) if at all possible. If the animal's owner is notified the owner will be responsible or the collection and disposal of the animal(s). If the animal(s) owner can not be notified, the Sheriff's Department will contact the Department of Transportation for collection and disposal of animal(s).
- c. All calls/requests concerning large animal(s) such as moose, elk, deer, domestic goats and sheep, etc shall first be referred to the road kill pickup list if carcass condition warrants it; and secondly shall be referred to wolf rescue centers when no person is available from the road kill pickup list; and thirdly if wolf rescue centers can not take the animal(s) be referred to Teller County Department of Transportation for collection and disposal.
- d. All calls/requests concerning small animal(s) such as dogs, cats raccoons, coyotes, fox and etc (if Wolf rescue centers cannot take the animal(s)) will be referred to Teller County Animal Control for collection and disposal.

6. The Sheriff's Department shall call the Department of Transportation's Administrative office at 687-8812 requesting the large animal(s) be collected and disposed of.
7. The Sheriff's Department shall give a brief description of the kind of animal, estimated date of kill, condition of carcass and the location of the animal.
8. The Department of Transportation's Administrative office shall dispatch the information out to the proper crew immediately.
9. The Department of Transportation shall respond to the Sheriff's request as soon as possible but, within 24-hours of the telephone call/request.
10. All Supervisors and/or Team Leaders will see that the dead animal(s) are removed from the County right-of-way and disposed of.
11. All animals shall be collected and disposed of in compliance with CRS 25-1-612 (see below).
12. All dead animals should be disposed of using rubber gloves, a shovel and/or loader, in order to prevent contamination or spread of a diseased animal.
13. If a quantity of more than two (2) rodent type animals are found dead, the Teller County Health Department should be notified for disease control. (687-5250).

25-1-612. Dead animals – disposition- penalty. No person shall put any dead animal or part of the carcass of any dead animal into any lake, river, creek, pond, road, street, alley, lane, lot, field, or meadow, or common or in any place within one mile of the residence of any person, unless the same and every part thereof is burned or buried at least two feet underground. If the owner thereof knowingly permits the same to remain in any of the aforesaid places, to the injury of the health or to the annoyance of any citizen of the estate, he is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of no less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars, together with the costs of prosecution. In default of the payment thereof, he shall be imprisoned in the county jail of the county in which convicted for not more than ten days, such penalty to be imposed by any court of competent jurisdiction. Every twenty-four hours said owner permits the same to remain after such conviction shall be deemed an additional offense against the provisions of this sections, and upon conviction thereof he shall be punished by a further fine of not less than ten dollars not more than thirty dollars, together with the costs of prosecution, to be recovered as aforesaid and in default of the payment thereof be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than thirty days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Source: L. 1893. p. 377. & 5: R. S. 08. & 5034: C. L. & 895: CSA. C. 78. & 30: CRS 53. & 66-3-12: C.R.S. 1963 & 66-3-12.

Am. Jur. Sec 4 Am. Jur. 2d. Animals & 26.

C.I.S. Sec 39 C.I.S. Health & 25.