

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL REGULATION  
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GENERAL RELEASE  
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MEMORANDUM

TO: CHIEF EDITORIAL WRITERS

The following information is submitted as background editorial material relative to National Dog Week, September 21-27.

Los Angeles will participate in National Dog Week by focusing attention on Los Angeles' 300,000 dog population. Mayor Sam Yorty will issue a proclamation defining September 21-27 as Dog Week in Los Angeles.

His proclamation, to be issued Tuesday, September 16 at City Hall, in part, calls attention to dogs' participation in our national defense program, the heroic deeds of dogs in times of both peace and war, and the role of the Seeing Eye dog.

Of the 300,000 dogs in the City of Los Angeles, licensable dogs total 265,000. Left to be licensed are 232,000.

Robert I. Rush, General Manager of the Department of Animal Regulation strongly urges every dog owner to procure a license for his dog.

"First of all, a City Ordinance requires that every dog over the age of four months be licensed," he pointed out, "and, secondly, if a dog with a license strays from home and is impounded, our Animal Control Officers can locate the owner and re-unite him with his pet."

Dog licenses cost \$4.00.

MORE

Rush estimates that some 7,000 dogs will be lost or destroyed in 1970 because they were not properly licensed.

The City of Los Angeles set a world's record this year in its public low-cost anti-rabies campaign. A total of 15,754 dogs were inoculated in August.

The City of Los Angeles has five Animal Shelters located in downtown Los Angeles, West Los Angeles, Central Los Angeles (Eleventh Avenue), the Harbor and San Fernando Valley. A sixth Shelter is being constructed in Chatsworth and will be open in April, 1970.

Los Angeles' animal population approximates 2 1/2 million, including the 300,000 dogs.

Dogs should have an annual physical check-up.

"Dogs are susceptible to many of the same diseases that plague man," Rush says, "such as arthritis, Pyorrhea, kidney disease, heart trouble, allergies and tumors.

"Be considerate and kind to your dog," Rush says, and he will be a faithful and affectionate companion as well as your protector."

Dogs of all kinds, colors and sizes are available at Los Angeles City Animal Shelters for adoption.

Adopt a dog during Dog Week!