

November 25, 2013

News Release

*For Immediate Release*

**Animal Shelter closed Thanksgiving Day**

The Springfield Animal Shelter will be closed to the public on Thanksgiving Day. The shelter, previously open on all holidays, also will be closed to the public on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

One staff member will still be present to feed animals and clean cages. Previously, two Animal Control Officers were required to staff the shelter on holidays to deal with public inquiries into lost animals. Closing the shelter to the public represents a cost savings to the Health Department and the City of Springfield, which provides the majority of funding for Animal Control.

The shelter will be open on Friday, Nov. 29 (the day after Thanksgiving), as well as Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

For more information, contact: Karen Prescott, Environmental Health Administrator, (417) 864-1664.