

Glossary

Abnormal: irregular; not normal

Abscess: a cavity formed in or on the body by disintegrating tissues; contains pus

Abuse: to injure by maltreatment; physical maltreatment

Act: the formal product of a legislative body; law; statute

Acute: having a sudden onset, sharp rise, and a short course

Administer: to give; to manage or oversee

Adoption: taking voluntarily and accepting as one's own

Aggressive: 1) having a readiness for combat or attack 2) demonstrating forceful energy or initiative; enterprising

Airborne: transported by air

Anemia: a condition in which blood is deficient in red blood cells, hemoglobin, or total volume

Anesthetic: a substance that produces a lack of awareness or sensitivity

Animal: a living creature with powers of instinct or thought, feelings, sensations, and the ability to move at will

Antibody: a substance in the blood that neutralizes foreign substances in the body

Antiseptic: a substance that destroys infectious organisms on living matter (for example, your hands)

Anus: the terminal opening of the intestinal tract

Anxiety: a feeling of uncertainty and fear

Asocial: not social; abnormal social behavior

Attack: 1) an occurrence of a disease 2) an attempt to injure by force

Glossary

Bacteria: microscopic organisms that live in soil, water, the bodies of plants and animals, or other living matter

Barbiturate: chemical used as a sedative or to induce sleep

Behavior: the responses of an individual to its environment; to act, function, or react in a particular manner

Bitch: a female canine

Box trap: a trap made in the shape of a box, usually of wood or wire screen, for safely capturing and enclosing an animal

Breed: (verb) to mate; (noun) an animal strain developed and maintained by man, usually with recognizable physical characteristics

Breeding: the sexual propagation (multiplication) of animals

Canine: a member of the family Canidae (for example, dogs, coyotes, wolves, and foxes); of or relating to dogs or the family Canidae

Carcass: a dead body; the skinned and gutted body of a meat animal

Carnivore: a flesh-eating animal

Castrate: to remove the organs of reproduction; usually refers to the removal of the testicles; neuter

Certification: the act of showing proof of meeting a set of standards

Chain of custody: the documentation of everyone who has handled evidence collected from a crime scene

Chlamydia: a member of genus of bacteria that multiply only within a host cell and have a unique growth cycle

Choke: to interrupt normal breathing by obstruction or compression of the windpipe (trachea); the act of choking

Citation: an official summons to appear before a court

Glossary

Civil (law): body of law concerned with the rights of private citizens in a specific state; applied to private citizens

Class A misdemeanor: a fine not to exceed \$4,000 or a maximum jail time not to exceed 1 year or a combination of a fine and jail time

Class B misdemeanor: a fine not to exceed \$2,000 or a maximum jail time not to exceed 180 days or a combination of a fine and jail time

Class C misdemeanor: a fine not to exceed \$500 and no jail time

Clean: free of dirt, contamination, or disease

Clinical signs: the evidence of disease in an animal (such as rash, fever, vomiting)

Complaint: a formal accusation or charge

Condition: 1) a state of physical fitness, health, or well-being 2) to put into a proper state for work or use

Confine: to restrict; to keep within certain limits; the act of confining

Conjunctivitis: an inflammation of the conjunctiva (mucous membrane that lines the inner surface of the eyelids)

Constipation: infrequent or difficult defecation

Contagious: can be transmitted from one individual to another; communicable; "catching"

Contaminate: to soil, stain, or infect by contact; to make impure

Controlled substance: any drug that is strictly regulated by the law

Copulation: the sexual union between male and female

Credibility: the condition of being believable

Crepuscular: active at twilight or dawn

Criminal (law): law dealing with crime and its punishment

Glossary

Cruel: causing suffering; sadistic; lacking humane feelings

Cruelty: the quality or state of being cruel; a cruel action

Deciduous: to shed seasonally or at a certain stage of the life cycle (such as tree leaves and baby teeth)

Dehydration: excessive water loss from the body or from an organ or body part

Denatured: unfit for human consumption without being spoiled for other uses

Diagnose: to provide a diagnosis (the identification of a disease from its clinical signs and symptoms and/or laboratory tests)

Diarrhea: a frequent, liquid defecation; unformed stools

Didelphimorphia: the order of mammals that includes the opossum and the kangaroo

Diet: the daily amount of food and water consumed

Disease: a departure from health; specific sickness or illness

Disinfect: to free from infectious material; sanitize

Disinfectant: a substance, commonly a chemical, that destroys infectious organisms

Disposition: 1) an individual's customary temperament or emotional response 2) making final arrangements in an orderly manner

Diurnal: active during the daytime

Dog: 1) a member of the family Canidae that has been domesticated 2) a male canine

Domestic animal: any animal normally adapted to live in intimate association with humans or for the advantage of humans

Durable: tough; hard-wearing; strong; long-lasting; sturdy

Enforce: 1) to impose by force 2) to make people obey a law

Glossary

Environment: the surrounding conditions

Epidemic: the occurrence of more human cases of disease than expected in a given area within a particular period of time

Epidermis: the outer layer of skin on an animal

Epizootic: an outbreak (epidemic) of disease in an animal population

Equine: a horse or an animal like a horse, including: mules, asses, donkeys, zebras, and ponies

Eradicate: to destroy; eliminate

Estrus: a regularly occurring period of sexual receptiveness and ovulation in female mammals; Aheat;@ Ain season@

Ethology: the study of animal behavior

Euthanasia: a painless and humane death

Euthanate or **Euthanize:** to administer euthanasia; the act of euthanating

Exemption: a release from liability or requirement

Extension: 1) an increase in the length of time allowed to complete a task 2) a section forming an additional length

External: outside or on the surface

Fatal: causing death

Fear: a feeling of alarm or disquiet caused by an expectation of danger, pain, or disaster

Fearful: causing fear or alarm because of a dangerous quality; arising from fear

Feces: the excrement discharged from the intestines; dung; manure; stool

Feline: a member of the family Felidae (for example, domestic cats, cougars, and bobcats); of or relating to cats or the family Felidae

Glossary

Felony: a crime more severe than a misdemeanor and subject to more severe punishment

Feral: having escaped from domestication and reverted to a wild state; untamed

Fertilization: the joining of the male and female reproductive cells (sperm and egg); conception

Field: the area of practical operation outside the office

Fomite: an inanimate object contaminated with an infectious agent and able to act as a source of infection to animals or people (for example, a dirty catch pole)

Fracture: a broken bone

Fungi: plural of fungus

Fungus: any of a group of primitive plants that lack chlorophyll: mildew, smut, and mushrooms; ringworm

Germ: a pathogenic microorganism; a microorganism, especially one that produces disease in animals

Gestation: carrying and developing of young in the uterus; pregnancy

Hackles: the hair on neck and back raised involuntarily by an animal in fright or anger

Hazardous: exposing to risk; dangerous

High-risk animal: an animal with a high chance of transmitting rabies

Home range: the furthest distance away from its home that an animal usually travels

Hookworms: microscopic, zoonotic, parasitic worms that infect domestic animals and are transmitted through the feces of an infected animal

Humane: compassion, sympathy, or consideration for humans or animals; also used in the term "humane society," a non-profit organization dedicated to compassionate treatment for animals

Hybrid: any offspring of two animals of different species

Glossary

Hygiene: sanitary living; cleanliness

Ill (ill): not in good health; sick

Immune: protected against a particular disease

Immunization: the process of rendering an individual immune by vaccination

Immunocompromised: the condition of having a weakened immune system, which can be caused, for example, by AIDS, chemotherapy, or a splenectomy

Impound: the act of collecting and confining an animal by a government entity or government contractor pursuant to a state or local ordinance; the act of impounding

Impoundment: the collecting and confining of an animal by a government entity or government contractor pursuant to a state or local ordinance; the act of impounding

Impoundment facility: an enclosure or a structure used to house impounded animals; an enclosure or a structure in which an animal is collected or confined by a government entity or government contractor pursuant to a state or local ordinance

Incubation: the period of time between the infection of an individual by a disease-causing organism and the appearance of clinical signs or symptoms of that disease

Indigenous: native to an area (for example, skunks in Texas)

Infect: to transmit disease-causing germs to another individual

Infectious: capable of causing infection (the invasion of the body by living disease-causing organisms)

Infest: 1) to live on a body as a parasite 2) to invade an inanimate object such as a building

Infestation: 1) the invasion of the outer body by insects, mites, ticks, etc. 2) to overrun or inhabit in large numbers, usually so as to be harmful

Inhumane: not humane; lacking compassion, sympathy, or consideration for humans or animals

Inject: to force a liquid into the body

Glossary

Injectable: capable of being injected; a fluid that can be forced into the body

Insectivora: the order of mammals that includes shrews and moles

Internal: inside the body

Intestine: the digestive system from the stomach to the anus; gut

Intracardiac (IC): within the heart

Intraperitoneal (IP): within the abdominal cavity

Intravenous (IV): within a vein

Isolation: the separation of one animal from other animals and people

Judicial: relating to a judgment; the administration of justice

Jurisdiction: the limits or territory within which authority may be exercised

Kennel: a shelter for a dog; an establishment for the boarding or raising of dogs

Kill: to deprive of life

Laceration: a torn, ragged wound

Lagomorpha: the order of mammals that includes rabbits and hares

Law: a rule of conduct or action formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority

Legal: deriving authority from or founded upon law

Lethargic: slow; drowsy; apathetic

Liability: the state of being liable; something for which one is liable

Liability insurance: an insurance providing financial coverage for injury or harm to another person caused by the insured person or his/her family or pets

Glossary

Liable: legally obligated; responsible

License: the permission granted by competent authority to engage in an activity that is otherwise unlawful

Listless: a lack of desire to move

Litter: the offspring produced at one birth by a multiparous animal

Live trap: a trap for capturing animals alive and uninjured

Liver: 1) deep, red-brown color 2) an abdominal organ located under the diaphragm; the largest glandular organ in vertebrate animals

Livestock: equine animals or any animal raised for human consumption (such as horses, cows, or pigs)

Livestock commission facility: a place where people gather to buy and sell livestock

Local rabies control authority (LRCA): an individual appointed by a municipal or county government in Texas whose duties include enforcement of the Rabies Control Act (Chapter 826 of the Texas Health and Safety Code)

Log: any of various records of performance

Low-risk animal: an animal with little chance of transmitting rabies

Magistrate: an official entrusted with the administration of the laws; judge; justice of the peace

Malnutrition: poor or inadequate nutrition

Mammal: a member of the class Mammalia; animals that nourish their young with milk secreted by mammary glands and that have skin covered with hair

Microbe: a microorganism; a microscopic organism

Microorganism: an organism visible only through a microscope; a microbe

Glossary

Misdemeanor: a minor offense for which statutes provide a lesser punishment than for a felony (includes Class A, B, and C misdemeanors)

Mite: a tiny animal related to spiders; often a parasite of the skin or ears

Mucous membrane: the thin layer that lines body openings such as the eyes, nose, and mouth

Municipal: referring to a city or town; self-government restricted to one locality

Muzzle: 1) the area of the nose and jaws that protrudes from an animal's face; the snout 2) a strap or device attached to the foreface of an animal to prevent it from biting or eating

Narcotic: a drug that dulls the senses, relieves pain, and produces sleep

Neuter: to render an animal incapable of reproduction by removal of the testicles or of the ovaries and uterus; castrate; spay

News: public communication organizations such as newspapers, magazines, radio, and television

Nocturnal: active at night

Nonabsorbent: not able to absorb; not able to soak up or take in

Normal: a regular or expected appearance or behavior

Nuisance: something annoying, unpleasant, or obnoxious

Objective: 1) without bias or prejudice; detached 2) aim or goal

Observation period: the time following a potential rabies exposure during which the health status of the animal responsible for the exposure is monitored for signs of rabies; the observation period for dogs, cats, and domestic ferrets is 10 days

Offense: a violation of the law

Oral: pertaining to the mouth

Ordinance: a law created by a governmental body

Glossary

Outbreak: a sudden rise in the incidence of a disease

Ovum: the female reproductive cell which develops into a new member of the same species after fertilization; egg

Paralysis: complete or partial loss of muscle function

Parasite: an organism that lives upon or within an animal

Pathogen: any microorganism capable of causing disease

Penal code: a code of laws concerning crimes and offenses and their punishment

Permit: a document giving permission to do something

Personal space: the area within 0 to 4 feet of an animal (or person); the smallest space in an animal's (or person's) territory

Pet: a domesticated or tamed animal kept for pleasure rather than utility

Population: the total number of individuals occupying a specific area

Potbelly: an enlarged or swollen abdomen

Prevent: to keep from happening

Profession: an occupation requiring specialized study or training

Professional: a member of a profession; characteristic of a profession

Prophylaxis: prevention

Prosecute: to pursue for punishment of a violation of law in proper legal form

Puberty: sexual maturity; able to reproduce

Public space: the area greater than 12 feet from the animal, but it is still within the animal's territory

Pulse: a surge of blood in the arteries caused by the contractions of the heart; a beat

Glossary

Purebred: an animal whose parents were of the same breed

Pursuit: the act of following in order to overtake and capture; the act of pursuing

Quarantine: a state of enforced isolation; for rabies this means no "nose to nose" or direct contact between animals or between animals and people; the act of quarantining

Quarantine facility: the building or other structure used for quarantine of animals

Quarantine period: the length of time required by law for enforced isolation; the portion of the observation period during which an animal that has potentially exposed a human to rabies is under physical confinement

Queen: a female domestic cat

Reclaim: to demand or obtain again

Reclamation: the act of reclaiming

Rectum: the portion of the large intestine closest to the anus

Register: a written record containing prescribed entries

Registered: recorded with a governing body

Registration: the act of registering; a document certifying an act of registering

Regulate: to control; adjust to a standard

Regulation: a rule; an order having the force of law

Rehabilitate: to restore to good health or useful life

Rehabilitator: a person who rehabilitates

Reproduce: 1) to have offspring 2) to make copies

Reproductive organs: those body parts involved in reproduction, such as the testicles, prostate, and penis in males and the ovary, vagina, and uterus in females

Reptile: a member of the class Reptilia including snakes, lizards, and alligators

Glossary

Requirements: a set of rules or a task that must be met

Reservoir: a living or nonliving substance where infectious germs multiply, develop, or hide

Respiration: breathing; the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide between the atmosphere and the cells of the body

Respiratory: pertaining to respiration

Restrain: to limit or keep under control

Ringworm: a fungal parasite of the skin

Rodent: a member of the order Rodentia, including rats, mice, and squirrels

Rodentia: the order of mammals that includes rats, mice, hamsters, beavers, gerbils, gophers, voles, prairie dogs, guinea pigs, chipmunks, muskrats, porcupines, squirrels, and nutria

Roundworms: long, zoonotic, parasitic worms that infect dogs and cats and are transmitted through the feces of an infected animal

Run: 1) to go faster than a walk 2) an enclosure for animals

Saddle: 1) dark or black marking over the back of an animal 2) a padded leather seat used on the back of a horse by the rider

Saliva: a watery fluid secreted in the mouth; "spit"

Salivary gland: a gland located in the neck or throat that produces saliva

Sanitary: relating to health; kept in cleanliness

Sanitation: to make healthful with cleaning or sterilizing

Secure: 1) having no doubt of being safe 2) to obtain or get

Sedated: dosed with sedatives (a drug or chemical that calms)

Glossary

Seizure: 1) legally taking possession 2) sudden convulsions (violent shaking or trembling)

Shock: a state of depression of the vital processes associated with reduced blood volume and pressure, usually caused by severe injuries or hemorrhage

Sick: the absence of health; having a disease; ill

Smooth: an animal's coat having short hair that lies close to the body

Social: an interaction of an individual within a group that tends to form cooperative relationships

Socialization: the process of adapting to social contact

Social space: the area within 4 to 12 feet of an animal; part of the animal's territory

Spay: to remove the ovaries and uterus of a female animal

Species: a category of individual animals having common physical characteristics and known by a common name

Specimen: 1) a single member of a species 2) a sample taken to determine certain physical characteristics

Sperm: the male reproductive cell

Spillover: when a known pathogenic organism, such as rabies virus, infects a species other than the organism's usual reservoir species

Standards: a widely accepted set of rules, such as professional standards of conduct; something established by authority for use as a rule or basis of comparison in measuring or judging value or quality

Starvation: to suffer from the lack of something, such as food or affection

Statute: an established rule or formal regulation; a law passed by a legislative body and presented in a formal document

Sterile: free from all live bacteria or other microorganisms and their spores; not producing or incapable of producing offspring

Glossary

Sterilization: 1) the complete destruction of all living microorganisms 2) rendering an animal unable to reproduce

Sterilize: to make sterile

Stress: a physical, chemical, or emotional factor that causes bodily or mental tension

Subchapter: a specific part of a main chapter

Subpoena: a legal writ requiring appearance in court to give testimony

Subpoenaed: issued a subpoena

Tame: unafraid of man; to reduce from a wild state to make useful to man

Tapeworms: zoonotic, parasitic worms that infect dogs and cats; some are transmitted by ingesting intermediate hosts, such as infected fleas

Territory: an area an animal defends against intruders

Testes/Testicles: the male reproductive organs that produce sperm

Testify: to make a statement under oath to establish a fact in a court of law

Texture: the visual or tactile surface characteristics

Threaten: to show or give signs of danger

Titer: a measure of the concentration of antibodies in the blood

Tom: a male domestic cat

Tourniquet: a device to control and prevent blood flow and bleeding

Toxic: poisonous

Transmissible: capable of being transmitted or passed

Transmission: the passing from one individual to another

Glossary

Transmit: to cause to spread or pass on; to spread from one person or animal to another

Unsanitary: not clean; unhealthful

Unvaccinated: has not received a vaccine

Urban: relating to a city

Urinate: to pass, void, or discharge urine

Urine: a fluid excreted by the kidneys, stored in the bladder, and discharged through the urethra

Uterus: the organ of the female mammal that contains the developing offspring after conception; womb

Vaccinated: has received a vaccine

Vaccination: the act of vaccinating

Vaccine: a preparation of disease-causing organisms administered to stimulate a protective or immune response

Vector: an organism that transfers a disease from one host to another

Venom: a toxic matter secreted by some animals, such as snakes, scorpions, and bees

Venomous: having a gland that produces venom and able to inflict venom into a wound

Ventilation: a good airflow; a system that provides fresh air and removes contaminated air

Vermin: any small, harmful, or objectionable animal that is difficult to control

Veterinarian: one who is educated, trained, and licensed to practice veterinary medicine; a doctor of veterinary medicine

Veterinary: the science of prevention and cure of disease and injury in animals

Glossary

Vicious: dangerously aggressive

Violation: the act of breaking or disregarding the law

Virus: any of a large group of submicroscopic agents that are smaller than bacteria and are capable of growth and multiplication only in living cells

Vital: necessary; essential

Vomit: to expel stomach contents through the mouth; the act of vomiting; "throw-up"

Vomiting: forcible ejection of contents of stomach through the mouth

Vomitus: the material that has been expelled from the body by vomiting

Waiver: a signed form forfeiting a known right, privilege, or claim

Warrant: an order authorizing an officer to make an arrest, seizure, or search or perform some other designated act

Wild: living in a natural state; not tame

Xenarthra: the order of mammals that includes armadillos, South American anteaters, and sloths

Zoonoses: any diseases transmissible between, or common to, animals and humans (zoonosis – singular)

Zoonotic: pertaining to a zoonosis; transmissible between, or common to, animals and humans