



INTAKE POLICY

TLHS currently operates as a managed admission animal welfare facility. As a humane organization located in Tupelo, MS and with contracts with the cities of Tupelo, Saltillo, Plantersville, Shannon, Nettleton, and Verona, we accept animals brought in from representing Animal Control Officers. Our goal is to provide services to every animal in need and to place each pet in a loving home.

TLHS schedules all intakes through appointment requests only. Intakes are prioritized based on the health/behavioral needs of the animal(s). We can only provide assistance for citizens within Lee County, MS and can provide assistance outside of Lee County as approved by the TLHS director. Emergency intakes include those that are in need of emergency veterinary care and include animals that are in danger of death or further injury.

Managed admission protocol means that the TLHS Intake Coordinator will schedule intake appointments depending on space available in the TLHS facility. Intakes without an appointment will not be accepted unless a medical emergency that threatens the pet's life. Citizens that find an animal or have a personal pet to surrender are encouraged to contact TLHS at 662-205-4221 or email intake@tupeloleehumane.org to be counseled by the TLHS Intake Coordinator. The Intake Coordinator will strive to schedule the pet for an intake within two weeks. Citizens are encouraged to allow TLHS to perform routine veterinary care for healthy animals or pets prior to the scheduled intake acceptance.

Animal Control Officers are responsible for contacting TLHS prior to bringing an animal for intake so that TLHS staff can make appropriate arrangements to accept the animal(s). Tupelo Police Department Animal Control Officers have direct access to the TLHS facility, and TLHS has designated kennels to place animals that are seized or picked up. All other Animal Control agencies within Lee County, MS are required to contact TLHS to arrange a date and time for intakes and to alert TLHS Intake personnel of any emergencies including seizure.

Any person wishing to surrender an animal must contact TLHS directly for an intake appointment and TLHS will not accept an owner surrendered animal through Animal Control. Citizen surrenders and Animal Control surrenders are considered to be two separate requests and TLHS handles each appropriately. Owner surrenders are encouraged to foster their animal to keep the animal out of the TLHS facility to reserve space for truly homeless animals in need.

TLHS's Finder Foster Program is for stray animals that are kept with their finding family or person(s) until TLHS has space and/or can be placed in a home or rescue. TLHS provides all routine veterinary care and spay/neuter services until the animal can be accepted by appointment to the TLHS facility. Contact foster@tupeloleehumane.org for more information on the Finder Foster Program.