



High Paw 5 During Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week

Everyday Dedication Keeps Community Safe, Compassionate, and Connected

Steamboat Springs, Colorado-April 16, 2026-Animal control officers serve on the front lines of public safety and animal welfare, responding to urgent and often unpredictable situations where compassion, quick decision-making, and professionalism make a direct impact on both animals and people.

“From rescuing injured or lost pets to addressing public safety concerns and preventing animal suffering, their work is essential to maintaining a safe, healthy, and humane community—yet much of it happens quietly, behind the scenes,” said Chief Mark Beckett.

As part of National Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week (April 14-20), the Steamboat Springs Police Department is recognizing the dedicated work and service of its Community Service Officers, who serve the community with professionalism, compassion, and commitment.



Steamboat Springs Community Service Officers respond daily to a wide range of calls and responsibilities that require both technical skill and compassion including numerous animal calls. Their work in this particular aspect of their duties includes rescuing injured or lost animals, investigating animal welfare concerns, enforcing local ordinances, and responding to situations that can pose risks to both public safety and animals.

In addition to enforcement, they play a key role in educating the public, preventing conflicts between people and animals, and connecting animals in need with appropriate care and resources.

“Our officers demonstrate dedication and compassion every day in often challenging and unpredictable situations,” said Community Service Supervisor Krista Amatuzio. “We are proud to recognize their service during Appreciation Week and thank them for their continued commitment to protecting both animals and our community.”

The department invites residents to join in recognizing the important role Community Service Officers play in supporting community safety, responsible pet ownership, and animal welfare. Make sure to give our CSOs a high ‘paw’ five this week to thank them for their service!

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