

Yes! I want to help the animals  
with a tax-deductible gift!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Email

**Giving Level**

\$35 \$100

\$50 \$250

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

Check  Master Card  Visa

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number Exp Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Security Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (needed for credit card only)

Contact me about making a legacy gift

Send me information about volunteering

**Please send to:**

**North Country  
Animal League  
3524 Laporte Road  
Morrisville, VT 05661**



## Lamoille Cruelty Response System: How does it work?

In Lamoille County we have a Cruelty Response System (CRS). NCAL serves as the central clearinghouse for animal cruelty complaints. The CRS is made up of NCAL, animal control officers, constables, humane investigators, police, sheriffs, our State's Attorney, animal rescue organizations and volunteers.

When NCAL receives an animal cruelty complaint, a NCAL staff member collects information about the animal(s) involved. The humane investigator for the town in which the situation has occurred is contacted. The humane investigator then visits the animal owner who is the subject of the complaint. In most cases, the humane investigator first tries to rectify the situation by educating the pet owner about how to provide better care for the animal(s). If the situation does not improve, the police will become involved and a search warrant may be obtained. In some criminal cases, animals may be seized as part of the investigation.

### Can I remain anonymous?

Yes, you may file a complaint anonymously, and the humane investigator will do the best they can with the information you provide. If you really want to be helpful, providing your name and phone number will make it easier for the humane investigator to obtain necessary information from you. Your identity will not be disclosed to the person or persons under investigation unless you provide a signed statement and the case goes to court.

## Animal Cruelty Stops with You!



***Animal cruelty is against the law. Speak for those unable to speak for themselves.***



3524 Laporte Road  
Morrisville, VT 05661

(802) 888-5065

[www.ncal.com](http://www.ncal.com)

## What is animal cruelty?

Animal Cruelty encompasses a range of behaviors harmful to animals, from neglect to malicious killing. Most cases of cruelty investigated by Humane Officers are unintentional neglect that can be resolved through education. Intentional cruelty or abuse is knowingly depriving an animal of food, water, shelter, socialization, or veterinary care, or maliciously torturing, maiming, mutilating, or killing an animal. Animal Cruelty is defined by Vermont Law.



### What sort of animal cruelty is covered under Vermont Law?

The most common forms of cruelty under Vermont Law ([www.vactf.org](http://www.vactf.org)) are:

Intentionally killing or attempting to kill any animal belonging to another person without first obtaining legal authority or consent of the owner. Overworking, overloading, torturing, tormenting, abandoning, beating, mutilating, poisoning or attempting to poison an animal. Tying or restraining an animal, either a pet or livestock, in a manner that is inhumane or is detrimental to its welfare.

Depriving or failing to provide an animal of adequate food, water, shelter, rest or sanitation, necessary medical attention, or transporting an animal in an overcrowded vehicle. This applies to an animal which a person owns, possesses, or cares for.

## Why do these laws exist?

The purpose of the Vermont Cruelty Laws are to prevent cruelty to and neglect of animals. In enforcing these laws, Humane Officers are encouraged to educate the public on requirements of the law and, when appropriate, to seek voluntary resolution of violations.

### What is the punishment for breaking the law?

When voluntary resolution cannot be achieved, the first violation of these laws carry penalties of up to one year in prison, a fine of \$2,000.00, or both. Second and subsequent convictions are punishable by a sentence of imprisonment of not more than two years, a fine of not more than \$5,000.00, or both.

**If you witness animal cruelty in Lamoille County, call:**

**(802) 888-5065 x105**

**North Country Animal League**

**If an animal is in immediate danger, call your local police department.**



## 5 Things You Can Do to Help the Animals

- 1) Educate yourself about the law at the Vermont Animal Cruelty Task Force website: [www.vactf.org](http://www.vactf.org).
- 2) Report animal cruelty to North Country Animal League 888-5065x105
- 3) Be outspoken about animal cruelty and neglect. Talk to your friends, family, and neighbors. Write letters to local newspapers.
- 4) Sign up with NCAL to foster an animal in the event of an emergency
- 5) Donate to the North Country Animal League. Your support makes the facilitation of humane investigations and proper enforcement possible.

