

**NOTIFICATION TO OWNER OF SEIZURE
AND WITHOLDING OF ANIMALS**

TO: Print Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

DESCRIPTION OF ANIMALS SEIZED:

NOTIFICATION

This notification is intended to satisfy the requirements for notification under Wis. Stat. §§ 173.13(3)(a) or (b). The above-described animal(s) was/were taken into custody by the undersigned humane officer or law enforcement officer on the following date: _____ . The animal(s) is/are in the custody of and being cared for and treated by the Iowa County Humane Society. The reason(s) for taking the animal(s) into custody is/are as follows:

There are reasonable grounds to believe that the animal(s) is/are:

- An abandoned or stray animal (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)1))
- An unwanted animal delivered to the humane officer or law enforcement (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)2))
- A dog not tagged as required by Wis. Stat. Ch. 174 (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)3))
- An animal not licensed in compliance with any ordinance (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)4))
- An animal not confined as required by a quarantine order under any statute, rule, or ordinance relating to the control of animal disease (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)5))
- An animal that has caused damage to person or property (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)6))
- An animal used in any crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951 or an animal that constitutes evidence of a crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951 (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)8))
- An animal delivered by a veterinarian under Wis. Stat. § 173.13(2) (Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)9))

There are reasonable grounds to believe that the person(s) owning or responsible for the animal(s) has/have:

- Mistreated the animal(s) contrary to Wis. Stat. § 951.02
- Instigated fighting between animal(s) contrary to Wis. Stat. § 951.08
- Failed to provide proper food and water as prescribed in Wis. Stat. § 951.13

- Failed to provide proper shelter as prescribed in Wis. Stat. § 951.14
- Abandoned the animal(s) contrary to Wis. Stat. § 951.15
- Other: _____

Iowa County intends to withhold the animal(s) from you on the following grounds pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 173.21(1):

- There are reasonable grounds to believe that the owner has used the animal in a crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951 or that the animal constitutes evidence of a crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951
- There are reasonable grounds to believe that the animal poses a significant threat to public health, safety, or welfare.
- A court has ordered the animal withheld for the following reason(s):

LIEN NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

As an owner of the seized animal(s), you must notify any person with a lien on the animal(s) that the animal(s) has/have been taken into custody.

REVIEW OF SEIZURE OR WITHHOLDING

The procedure by which you may seek return of the animal is set forth in Wis. Stat. § 173.22.

Please note that a person claiming that an animal he/she owns was improperly taken into custody under Wis. Stat. §§ 173.13(1)(a)3, 4, 5, or 6 or is wrongfully withheld under Wis. Stat. § 173.21(1)(b) or (d) may seek return of the animal by petitioning for an order from the circuit court in which the animal was taken into custody or in which it was withheld pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 173.22(1) to (3).

Please note that, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4), an owner of an animal taken into custody under Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)8 or withheld under Wis. Stat. § 173.21(1)(a) may apply for the animal’s return to the circuit court for the county in which the animal was taken into custody. No application under this paragraph may be made more than 30 days after the animal was seized. The court shall hold a hearing within 20 days after a timely application is filed, and the hearing shall be given preference.

In the hearing under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4), the court shall determine if the animal is needed as evidence or if there is reason to believe the animal was involved in any crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951. If the court determines that the animal is needed as evidence or that there is reason to believe that the animal was involved in any crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951, the court shall order the animal to be retained in custody. If the court determines that the animal is not needed as evidence and that there is not reason to believe that the animal was involved in a crime under Wis. Stat. Ch. 951, the court shall order the animal returned.

If you file a timely application under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4)(a) and the court orders the animal to be retained in custody under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4)(b), no payment is due under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4)(f) until 30 days after the court order. If the court orders an animal to be returned to you, under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4)(b), no payment is due under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(4)(f).

LIABILITY AND DEMAND FOR PAYMENT

Subject to Wis. Stat. §§ 173.22(4)(f) and (g), you, as the owner of an animal taken into custody under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(1)(a)8 or withheld under Wis. Stat. § 173.21(1)(a) are personally liable to Iowa County for the cost of the custody, care, and treatment of the animal. This is intended as written notice that you must pay the outstanding costs of custody, care, or treatment of the animal upon demand.

ANIMAL CONSIDERED UNCLAIMED/OPTION TO NOT CLAIM THE ANIMAL

As provided in Wis. Stat. § 173.19(1), Iowa County may treat any animal taken into custody under Wis. Stat. § 173.13(1)(a)1 as an unclaimed animal that is subject to Wis. Stat. § 173.23(1m) if, within 4 days after custody is taken of the animal it is not claimed by and returned to its owner under Wis. Stat. § 173.23(1).

As provided in Wis. Stat. § 173.19(2), Iowa County may treat any animal taken into custody under Wis. Stat. §§ 173.13(1)(a)3, 4, or 9 as an unclaimed animal that is subject to Wis. Stat. § 173.23(1m) if, within 7 days after custody is taken of the animal it is not claimed by and returned to its owner under Wis. Stat. § 173.23(1), except that an animal taken into custody under Wis. Stat. §§ 173.13(1)(a)3 or 4 may not be treated as unclaimed if its owner files a petition under Wis. Stat. § 173.22(1) within 7 days after custody is taken. As provided in Wis. Stat. § 173.19(3), if an animal is taken into custody under Wis. Stat. §§ 173.13(1)(a)3, 4, or 9 and also taken into custody under Wis. Stat. § 173.13(10(a)1, then only Wis. Stat. § 173.19(1) applies to that animal.

You may, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 173.13(3)(c) decide not to claim the animal. In that event, the animal will be treated as unclaimed under Wis. Stat. § 173.23(1m). Attached is a Written Statement to Treat Animals as Unclaimed. If you voluntarily wish to treat the animal as unclaimed, you must sign and date that Written Statement.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Individual Seizing Animal

Print Name of Individual Seizing Animal

- Iowa County Humane Officer
- Law Enforcement Officer (Agency:_____)