

[Statute/Constitution Search](#)

[Analytical Index](#)

[Alphabetical Index](#)

[Constitution Index](#)

Search

(Press Tab to search)

Revisor's Note: [In accordance with Section 3.090, the language of statutory sections enacted during the 2016 legislative session are available through a link to the relevant 2016 enacted bill, which will appear in the Chapter Table of Contents of the online Revised Statutes \(designated in red\) on the effective date of such enacted statutory section.](#)
[The language contained in a 2016 enacted bill may differ from the final language of any codified statutory section based on other enactments in 2016.](#)
[The statutory sections contained in the online Revised Statutes represent the codified statutory sections only.](#)

[Top](#)

Missouri Revised Statutes

Chapter [273](#)
Dogs--Cats

[←273.400](#)

Section [273.403.1](#)

[273.405→](#)

August 28, 2016

Sterilization of all cats and dogs adopted or purchased from animal shelters or animal control agencies, procedure.

[273.403.1](#). Provisions shall be made for the sterilization of all dogs and cats sold or released for adoption or purchased from any public or private animal shelter or animal control agency operated by a humane society, or by a county or city, or other political subdivision. Such provisions may be made by:

- (1) Providing for sterilization by a licensed veterinarian before relinquishing custody of the animal; or
- (2) Entering into a written agreement with the adopter or purchaser guaranteeing that sterilization will be performed by a licensed veterinarian, in compliance with a sterilization agreement which shall contain the following information:
 - (a) The date of the agreement;
 - (b) The name, address, and signature of the releasing agency and the adopter;
 - (c) A description of the animal to be adopted;
 - (d) A statement printed in conspicuous bold print that sterilization of the animal is required pursuant to sections [273.400](#) to [273.405](#);
 - (e) A sterilization completion date which shall be either:

- a. The thirtieth day after the date of adoption in the case of an adult animal; or
 - b. The thirtieth day after a specified date estimated to be the date an adopted infant female or male puppy or kitten becomes six months of age; or
 - c. If the releasing agency has a written policy recommending sterilization of certain infant animals at an earlier date, the thirtieth day after the date contained in* the written policy.
2. An adopter that signs a sterilization agreement shall have the adopted animal sterilized on or before the sterilization date stated in the agreement. If the sterilization completion date stated in the agreement falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline may be extended to the first day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. The releasing agency may extend the deadline for thirty days on the presentation of a letter or telephone report from a licensed veterinarian stating that the life or health of the adopted animal may be jeopardized by sterilization. There shall be no limit to the number of extensions that may be granted for this reason.

(L. 1992 S.B. 636 § 8)

*Word "after" appears in original rolls.

[Top](#)



Missouri General Assembly

Copyright © Missouri Legislature, all rights reserved.