

Animal Neglect/Cruelty

Most people treat their pets with the respect and love they deserve! That's why it's hard to believe that anyone would fail to take good care of an animal or hurt them on purpose.

Have you heard about animal neglect or cruelty? Here's what you need to know.

What is the difference between animal neglect and animal cruelty?

Neglect is when a person fails to provide the basic needs for an animal, in their care. Cruelty or abuse happens when someone knowingly harms an animal on purpose.

Is it against the law to abuse an animal in Canada?

Yes. It's against the law to abuse an animal in Canada.

What can you do to help a neglected or abused animal?

Never confront an abuser yourself! Always get help from a trusted adult – like a parent or teacher.

How can you tell if an animal is being abused? Look for these signs:

- sores, cuts or bruises on the body
- untreated tumors or bumps
- severely overgrown nails (often curling under)
- patches of missing fur
- very thin (with ribs or backbone protruding)
- animals kept outside (often chained) without adequate shelter, food and water
- animals left in a car on a hot or cold day
- abandonment (leaving an animal behind)

