Statewide and National Resources
Available to New Hampshire Law Enforcement and Towns for Assistance in the Investigation and Prosecution of Cruelty

Resources are listed in alphabetical order by agency.

This Resource List was originally prepared on in 2011 from information provided by the listed resource. It has been periodically updated but information contained may not be current.

If an agency or individual knows of errors found in this list or additional resources to be added, please provide zezula2@comcast.net with contact information.

This list will be updated as new information becomes available.

Latest Update: January 5, 2019
Animal Rescue League of NH

Contact Person: Maureen Prendergast,  
545 Route 101, Bedford, NH 03110-  Phone: 603-471-0888, pager # 603-639-3572  Nights/weekends:  Email/Website: maureen@rescueleague.org  Email is probably most effective as it transfers to my personal cell which I always have on me.

Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** Investigation assistance; Transport and/or housing

**Horses:** Investigation assistance

**Livestock:** Investigation assistance

**Birds/Exotics:** Investigation assistance; Transport and/or housing

**Animal Fighting:** Investigation assistance; Transport and/or housing

**Other:** Animal Rescue League of NH can assist in a variety of cases. While our strengths are with companion animals, we can provide investigation assistance with horses or livestock but cannot offer assistance with transport or housing. We have access to a number of individuals with bird and exotics experience and have successfully housed them in the past. We also have private areas in our shelter that are not accessed by the public, in which to house high profile case animals, dangerous animals, etc. Depending on any contagious diseases, we would have to take that case by case depending on our current shelter population at that time.

With regards to the animals that may require being housed, we do request that every effort is made to secure some if not all animal surrenders from any owners. So that we may move forward with that animal/s in a timely manner. Again, with relation to costs, the less time we have to hold an animal for court, the less expensive the case becomes.

**Fees:** While we do have some towns local to us that we contract with for their stray animals, we do not require having a contract with a town in order to assist them. Case by case we would request that the defendant/s reimburse the shelter and because we do not have our own prosecutor, we would request that the law enforcement agency and their prosecutor work to expedite the case which cuts down on holding costs, and to gain reimbursement as part of any agreement made with the defendant/s.

**Financial Assistance**

**Hoarding:** This really depends on timing. We may be able to apply for emergency grants for specific cases as we have done in the past. We also have a very limited fund within the shelter that does rely on donations but might be applicable to certain situations.
Forensics: This really depends on timing. We may be able to apply for emergency grants for specific cases as we have done in the past. We also have a very limited fund within the shelter that does rely on donations but might be applicable to certain situations.

Other: Yes

**Prosecution Resources**

**Background Research:** We are able to assist in the investigation, providing materials needed for successful prosecution. However we rely on the law enforcement agencies we work with to provide the prosecutor.

**Expert Witness Testimony:** Investigator has a curriculum vitae that I can provide to a prosecutor so that he/she may try to qualify the investigator as an expert witness. It speaks to a variety of experience, such as animal hoarding cases, dog fighting, etc. Otherwise the Animal Rescue League and our assisting veterinarians are prepared to provide testimony in court.
ASPCA

Contact Person: Randall Lockwood, Senior VP Forensic Sciences/Anti Cruelty
2214 Tulip Drive, Falls Church, VA 22046  Phone: 571-225-3463
347-668-3463  Nights/weekends: Email/Website: randall.lockwood@aspca.org or randy.lockwood@gmail.com  Website: www.aspcapro.org

Investigation Resources

Companion Animal: Can provide on-site expertise from crime scene investigators, use of mobile crime scene vehicle for large scale cases. See also Jeff Eyre

Horses: Contact Field Investigations and Response Team

Livestock: Contact Field Investigations and Response Team

Birds/Exotics: Contact Field Investigations and Response Team

Animal Fighting: Provide extensive help with planning, response assessment and placement as well as law enforcement and veterinary training

Other:

Fees: Usually requires formal request and MOU, but not fees

Financial Assistance

Hoarding: Can apply for anticruelty grants from ASPCAfor animal care or other response needs

Forensics: Yes- may request some compensation from prosecution when special tests are are requested

Other:

Prosecution Resources

Background Research: ASPCA partners with National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, Association of Prosecuting Attorneys and ALDF, as well as having resources for litigation assistance.

Expert Witness Testimony: Yes - usually with fees only for travel expenses.
Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** Investigation assistance; transport and/or housing. For each of these, I have an extensive network of NH residents who volunteer to assist in temporary housing (fostering) and transportation of these animals. Upon request for assistance, I send out an alert to my contacts asking for assistance, then work with law enforcement or humane society to assist as needed.

**Horses:** Investigation assistance; transport and/or housing. For each of these, I have an extensive network of NH residents who volunteer to assist in temporary housing (fostering) and transportation of these animals. Upon request for assistance, I send out an alert to my contacts asking for assistance, then work with law enforcement or humane society to assist as needed.

**Livestock:** Investigation assistance; transport and/or housing. For each of these, I have an extensive network of NH residents who volunteer to assist in temporary housing (fostering) and transportation of these animals. Upon request for assistance, I send out an alert to my contacts asking for assistance, then work with law enforcement or humane society to assist as needed.

**Fees:** I do not charge the town, depending upon location, we may ask for reimbursement for mileage – but that is a request, not a requirement

Prosecution Resources

**Background Research:** Provide background research for prosecutor/investigator

**Expert Witness Testimony:** Provide expert witness list or testimony

**Other:** All of the above – my website lists cruelty and animal laws as well as recent cases concerning animal cruelty. I offer my services pro bono to assist law enforcement and prosecutors in all stages of animal cruelty cases. My services include research, drafting warrants and court motions, expert witnesses and sentencing recommendations.
Toxicology: Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
(https://www.animalhealth.msu.edu/Sections/Toxicology/)

**Contact Person:** Toxicology Department, PO Box 30076, Lansing, MI 48909-7576  **Phone:** 517-353-1683  **Nights/weekends:** Email/Website:

**Investigation Resources**

**Other:** AAVLD Accredited Lab
Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** Investigation assistance

**Horses:** Investigation assistance

**Livestock:** Investigation assistance

**Birds/Exotics:** Investigation assistance

**Animal Fighting:** Investigation assistance

**Other:**

**Fees:** No fees for investigation assistance. Services are provided to law enforcement pursuant to RS A436:8, “Complaints under RSA 644:8, 644:8-a, 644:8-aa and any other law pertaining to the abuse of domestic animals, as defined under RSA 436:1, shall initially be filed with the local law enforcement agency, animal control officer, state police, or sheriff which has jurisdiction over where the animal is located or kept. At the request of the local law enforcement agency, animal control officer, state police, or sheriff, the state veterinarian shall assist in a secondary capacity in enforcing the provisions of and investigating said complaints.”

Financial Assistance

**Hoardiing:**

**Forensics:**

**Other:**

Prosecution Resources

**Background Research:** The department will not do the research but may be available to assist with interpreting, refining, and focusing the pertinent information.

**Expert Witness Testimony:** Provide expert witness list or testimony
Investigation Resources

Companion Animal:

Horses:

Livestock:

Birds/Exotics:

Animal Fighting:

Other: Laboratory Tests; necropsies

Fees: Fees and Services: http://www.nhvdl.unh.edu/fees-schedule
Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** Investigation assistance; transport and/or housing. NHSPCA offers assistance to any Police Agency in animal cruelty cases. Agent has 25 yrs. experience in Law Enforcement and 14 yrs. As the Humane Agent for the NHSPCA. I have been involved in animal cruelty cases around the state and have assisted in many criminal investigations resulting in convictions of animal cruelty and have testified as an expert witness in several Superior court cases around the state. Member of NACA and have hold a National Certificate for Cruelty investigations. Also certified as an Equine Investigator. Will assist in transportation of animals involved in cruelty. Can often hold animals in PC for court cases and supply follow up Veterinarian care as required on all animals held in PC and restore animals back to good health under close Veterinarian care.

**Horses:** Investigation assistance; ransport and/or housing. NHSPCA will assist in the investigation of equine complaints and have available Veterinarians to respond to cruelty of equines as required by state statute and we will remove and hold equines deemed necessary with the authority of the Veterinarian and Police agency and restore the equines back to good health and assist in the testimony in court cases. NHSPCA is in the process of expanding our Equine program and have the availability to transport and house horses that are in need of medical treatment for court cases. If the court deems the owners cannot have the horses returned to them, we will find good homes for the equines after the case is adjudicated.

**Livestock:** NHSPCA will do some livestock investigations and with the expansion of our farm program, NHSPCA will be able to house some farm animals on a case by case bases and this also includes poultry. NHSPCA can assist in the transportation of livestock and poultry.

**Birds/Exotics:** Investigation assistance; transport and/or housing. NHSPCA can investigate bird cases and exotics and will transport them as well as house the birds. Exotics we have a professional expert that can house them for us.

**Animal Fighting:** Investigation assistance; transport and/or housing. NHSPCA Agent has been involved in Dog fighting cases and has the ability to investigate those cases. NHSPCA can assist in transporting and housing fighting dogs for a short period of time.

**Other:**
**Fees:** NHSPCA works with law enforcement and do not charge a fee to those agencies. However, we do ask that the police agencies that prosecute the court cases ask for reimbursement for the holding agency (NHSPCA in this case) if the owner of the animals is convicted. Under NH Cruelty Statutes, the costs incurred for boarding and treatment shall be borne by the owner.

We do have contracts with some local towns to hold their stray animals in PC for the owners to pick up.

**Prosecution Resources**

**Background Research:** As a career law enforcement employee and Humane Agent for the past 14 years, I have extensive experience in investigations, retiring as a Detective and having been certified Nationally as a Cruelty Investigator, I have the experience to assist any agency in the investigation and conviction of those responsible for cruelty to animals. I have been involved in multiple investigations/ court hearings and have been deemed an expert witness in several Superior and District courts around the state.

**Expert Witness Testimony:** NHSPCA does not charge a fee for my testimony in any cases. We work closely with police departments and assist them in bringing cases to court for disposition and we do not charge for that service.

**Other:** See above
Pet Smart Charities

Contact Person: Emergency Relief Manager,
, , Phone: 1-800-423-PETS, ext. 2840  Nights/weekends:
http://www.petsmartcharities.org/emergency-relief/  Email/Website:
membership@petsmartcharities.org.

Investigation Resources

Companion Animal: Multiple Animal Rescues - 25 or more animals occurring within 6 months. Must submit grant request, newspaper articles and itemized expense list. Will also provide emergency pet supplies. Emergency Relief Waggin’ trailers contain the following to help care for up to 500 pets:

• Crates
• Bowls
• Leashes and collars
• Litter
• Food
• Tents
• Fans
• A generator
• Other emergency-related items

See: http://www.petsmartcharities.org/emergency-relief/er-forms/Multiple_Animals_Assistance.pdf

Horses: Multiple Animal Rescues - 3 or more horses occurring within 6 months. Must submit grant request, newspaper articles and itemized expense list. One Horse rescue per year. See: http://www.petsmartcharities.org/emergency-relief/er-forms/Multiple_Animals_Assistance.pdf

Financial Assistance

Hoardings: Multiple Animal Rescues - 25 or more animals occurring within 6 months. Must submit grant request, newspaper articles and itemized expense list. Will also provide
emergency pet supplies. See: http://www.petsmartcharities.org/emergency-relief/er-forms/Multiple_Animals_Assistance.pdf
Pope Memorial SPCA

Contact Person: Tona McCarthy, Field Officer
94 Silk Farm Rd., Concord, NH 03301- Phone: 603-856-8756 ex 240 M-F Days; Nights/weekends:
Private cell: 603-892-1220 Email/Website: tmccarthy@popememorialspca.org

Investigation Resources

Companion Animal: Investigation assistance, transport and housing

Horses: Investigation assistance

Livestock: Investigation assistance

Birds/Exotics: Investigation assistance

Animal Fighting: Investigation assistance

Other: Can help find housing locations for exotics, horses and livestock

Fees:

Prosecution Resources

Background Research: Retired NH Law Enforcement, can assist with drafting warrants, cruelty investigations, report writing, photographs and interviews

Expert Witness Testimony: Yes. May request fee depending on circumstances.

Other:
State Police Forensics Lab

Contact Person:
33 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305  Phone: (603) 223-3854  Nights/weekends:  Email/Website:

Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** Evidence related to an animal cruelty case or beastiality. No animal samples can be tested for DNA.

**Horses:** as above

**Livestock:** as above

**Birds/Exotics:**

**Animal Fighting:**

**Other:**

**Fees:**

1. Lab no longer has the capability to test for species other than human. If an investigation required the identification of a non-human species we’d likely refer the investigating agency (police department) to a private lab (e.g. SERI) for that analysis. The cost of the testing per sample should be less than $100, maybe even less than $50. The cost of the testing would typically be the responsibility of the police department. FYI, most County Attorney’s offices consider the cost of forensic testing to be an investigative expense and the responsibility of the police. Whereas any costs associated with expert witness testimony, regarding forensic testing, to be a prosecutorial expense and the responsibility of the County Attorney’s office.

2. We do have the capacity to test for human semen and when found, perform DNA testing. This analysis is not currently restricted by the species of the “victim” that I am aware of. This service (as well as any of our services) is available to all New Hampshire law enforcement agencies provided that the evidence is collected in connection with a bona fide criminal investigation.
Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** Investigation Assistance; transport and/or housing. In all cases, HSUS ability to provide these services will depend on several factors, including but not limited to the nature of the case, the number of animals involved, the ability of local agencies to respond, and obligations that could be pending in other states. Typically HSUS can provide personnel to assist with the seizure, along with some funding (see below for further explanation).

**Horses:** Investigation Assistance; transport and/or housing

**Livestock:** Investigation Assistance; transport and/or housing

**Birds/Exotics:** Investigation Assistance; transport and/or housing

**Animal Fighting:** Investigation Assistance; transport and/or housing

**Other:** Depending on the factors listed above, Lindsay Hamrick is a Certified Pet Dog Trainer and specializes in working with dogs rescued from dogfighting operations. She is available as a resource on evaluations, animal handling during a rescue and housing and enrichment advice. She also has experience working with roosters from cockfighting operations and can refer groups to other resources in the region to assist with handling, housing and potential placement of these birds. HSUS has animal cruelty and illegal animal fighting specialists who provide training to law enforcement agencies on most of the above-mentioned topics. Many of our trainings can be offered free of charge if we have a minimum of 30 attendees.

HSUS can offer a $2,500 reward for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of perpetrator(s) of animal cruelty, and a $5,000 reward for information in illegal animal fighting investigations.

HSUS can provide funding for the care and treatment of seized animals, on a case-by-case basis. HSUS ability to fund depends on the nature of the case and other pending obligations nationwide.

**Fees:** The HSUS has a “Permanent Placement and Transfer of Ownership Agreement” that we enter into with the lead law enforcement agency in animal cruelty investigations. This outlines our roles and responsibilities as they relate to the case, which normally includes being
responsible for the humane care and necessary veterinary treatment of the seized animals until the case is adjudicated.

Financial Assistance

**Hoarder:** The lead law enforcement agency would need to contact the HSUS New Hampshire state director with relevant details of the case, and she would act as the liaison between the police and the HSUS Animal Cruelty Investigations Department.

Even if the HSUS could not take financial responsibility for all of the animals while the case is pending trial, we have a Cruelty Assistance Fund to help local law enforcement and other agencies pursue important cruelty cases. Typical requests are less than $1,000, but requests of up to $2,000 will be considered. This fund can assist with items like veterinary care, food, and other direct-care expenses for seized animals.

**Forensics:**

**Other:** We may also be able to provide financial assistance with puppy mill cases.

Prosecution Resources

**Background Research:** Provide background research for prosecutor/investigator based on years of experience handling animal cruelty cases (varying from puppy mills, hoarding/neglect, dogfighting, etc.)

**Expert Witness Testimony:** Provide expert witness list or testimony

**Other:**
Toxicology: Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Lab

Contact Person: 
1600 S 16th St, Ames, IA 50011- Phone: 515-294-1950 Nights/weekends: Email/Website:
http://vetmed.iastate.edu/diagnostic-lab/diagnostic-services/diagnostic-sections/chemistry/-
toxicology; http://vetmed.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/vdl/forms/ToxForm.pdf;
Veterinary Forensics: New Hampshire

Contact Person: Jerilee Zezula, Veterinarian
26 Town Hall Rd., Madbury, NH 03823  
Phone: 603-767-6856  
Nights/weekends: 603-767-6856
Email/Website: zezula2@comcast.net

Investigation Resources

Companion Animal: Investigation assistance; Would like to be involved in cases as early as possible - not after the fact. Will do forensic physical exams at site of investigation if needed. Member International Veterinary Forensic Sciences Association and has taken many classes on both investigations and forensic evidence collection and interpretation.

Animal Fighting: Investigation assistance; Would like to be involved in cases as early as possible. Member International Veterinary Forensic Sciences Association and has taken part in a dog fighting seizure, taken many classes on both animal fighting investigations and forensic evidence collection and interpretation.

Other: Burial site excavation.

Fees: No fees charged for time. Requires travel reimbursement. Police department or agency must pay laboratory fees and veterinary care fees for animals although depending on location, that may be at a discount. (Contact for more details.)

Prosecution Resources

Background Research: Will provide extensive veterinary related (all species) and some law background research at no charge.

Expert Witness Testimony: Will provide expert witness testimony in all areas of companion animal cruelty investigation and forensics and explanatory information on some areas of other types of animals. (Opinion and Consulting Expert)

Other: Will assist with warrant and report writing and interpretation of NH Cruelty Laws.
Veterinary Genetics Laboratory Forensic Unit (VGL Forensics)

Contact Person: ,
,  , Phone:   Nights/weekends:  Email/Website: http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/forensics/index.php

Investigation Resources

**Companion Animal:** An ASCLD/LAB accredited laboratory since 2010

Accredited by the American Society of Crime Lab Directors Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) under the International ISO 17025 standards

The Veterinary Genetics Laboratory Forensic Unit (VGL Forensics) is proud to be the first accredited crime lab dedicated to animal DNA profiling under the ASCLD/LAB-International program. Accreditation assures our clients that we are committed to a quality program that enhances the accuracy and acceptance of our test results. As part of one of the largest animal DNA testing laboratories in the world, VGL Forensics provides forensic DNA testing services to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies as well as to the general public.