

## *Guidelines for Cold Weather Conditions*

- ❖ **State Law requires adequate shelter for animals.**
- ❖ Animals can freeze to death in winter months.
- ❖ If an animal is to be kept outside, adequate preparation for the cold months is essential.
- ❖ Animals require extra food during the winter months; the additional calories are used to produce warmth.
- ❖ Doghouses should just be large enough for the dog to lie down and have a little head room when sitting up but no larger. The dog's heat will help keep the doghouse warm.
- ❖ Doghouses must be insulated, waterproof and draft free preferably with the entrance facing the south.
- ❖ A flap should be hung over the door of the doghouse.
- ❖ Fresh straw or hay must be placed inside the doghouse when the temperature is 50 degrees or colder.
- ❖ Bedding material must remain dry at all times.
- ❖ Blankets are not recommended they will retain moisture.
- ❖ Animals are to be protected from wind, rain and snow.
- ❖ When temperatures are freezing water bowls must be checked at least twice a day, frozen water must be replaced. Don't just break the ice. Cold water will bring the animals body temperature down. **Heated water bowls are recommended.**
- ❖ Always take the animals well being into consideration.
- ❖ On extremely bitter evenings it is advisable to bring any animal inside.

Animal Control Regulations: 6.10.01 Cruelty to Animals

*Animal Welfare is a human responsibility that encompasses all aspects of animal well being, including proper housing and humane handling.*

