

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT PERSON: RITA D. ARRUDA, CITY CLERK

ALL DOG OWNERS IN THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD ARE REQUIRED TO LICENSE THEIR DOGS BY FEBRUARY 1ST. THE LICENSES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, IN CITY HALL ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011 LICENSES ARE \$10.00 FOR NEUTERED DOGS AND \$20.00 FOR UNNEUTERED DOGS. KENNEL LICENSES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE BUT NO KENNEL LICENSE FOR MORE THAN FOUR DOGS WILL BE ALLOWED IN A RESIDENTIAL ZONE.

A VALID RABIES CERTIFICATE AND PROOF THAT THE DOG HAS BEEN NEUTERED MUST BE PRESENTED WHEN APPLYING FOR A DOG LICENSE. THE INCREASED PROBLEM WITH RABIES IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS MAKES IT VITAL THAT ALL DOGS ARE LICENSED AND THEREFORE PROOF THAT THEY HAVE HAD THEIR RABIES VACCINATIONS. ALSO, A \$5.00 SAVINGS WILL OCCUR IF A CERTIFICATE OF TRAINING IS SHOWN AT THE TIME OF LICENSING.

UNLICENSED DOGS ARE SUBJECT TO SEIZURE AND FINES. FEES AND PENALTIES CAN COME TO AS MUCH AS \$300. DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES INVOLVED, THE CITY'S ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT WILL TICKET THOSE WHO FAIL TO LICENSE THEIR DOGS.

LICENSES CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED THROUGH THE MAIL BY SENDING A CHECK FOR THE PROPER AMOUNT MADE PAYABLE TO THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, PROOF OF NEUTERING, IF APPLICABLE, TO CITY CLERK, 133 WILLIAM STREET, NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740. PLEASE ENCLOSE A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO GO BACK TO YOU. ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROCESS CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 4 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY AT 508-979-1450, ANIMAL CONTROL AT 508-991-6366 OR THEIR WEBSITE AT WWW.NBACO.INFO, OR BY LOOKING ON LINE TO OUR WEBSITE AT www.newbedford-ma.gov FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THERE WILL BE A RABIES CLINIC AT FIRE STATION #9 TARKILN HILL RD. & ASHLEY BLVD. AND FIRE STATION #11 MOTT ST. & BROCK AVE. ON SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2012 BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 12 NOON. THE FEE FOR RABIES VACCINATION WILL BE \$10.00.