

## Public Affairs

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2001**

Contact: [Mike Blanton](#), Director, Public Affairs Division  
(919) 733-4216 (office)  
(919) 218-5421 (cell)

### All Creatures Great and Small animal shelter ordered closed

**RALEIGH** – In response to continued complaints and a failed inspection on Aug. 15, officials with the N.C. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services [Veterinary Division](#) today ordered the All Creatures Great and Small animal shelter in Hendersonville to cease operations within the next 30 days.

This order also calls for all animals to be relocated to other approved shelter facilities. Failure to heed the order could result in civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation in accordance with N.C. General Statute 19A-40. NCD&CS officials also notified the shelter operators that their application for license renewal has been disapproved.

“We have worked extremely hard with the management at this facility for more than two years to help them meet licensing standards under the Animal Welfare Act,” said Dr. David Marshall, Assistant Commissioner and State Veterinarian. “Apparently they are either unwilling or unable to maintain a healthy environment for the animals in their care.”

State officials have said they will help with relocation of all the animals. The 30-day grace period is being allowed to help find suitable locations to move the animals. The NCD&CS Veterinary Division staff is sending letters to licensed animal shelter facilities in western North Carolina seeking their assistance in this situation.

“Our goal is to protect these animals,” Dr. Marshall said. “The last thing we want is for these animals to be destroyed.” A state license to operate was originally issued to All Creatures Great and Small on Feb. 6, 2001 after owners of the facility met minimum licensing standards. The shelter failed an inspection on Aug. 15.

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