

ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL FACILITY

September 4, 2025 Inspection Summary

On August 15, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) conducted an inspection of the Cedar Rapids Animal Care & Control (CRACC) facility. Of 32 items reviewed, 26 were compliant, 5 not applicable, and 1 non-compliant. The non-compliant item has been updated and is awaiting State review.

A follow-up inspection on August 19 identified additional items related to building maintenance, ventilation, humidity, and mold remediation. Concerns included roof leaks, ceiling damage, and moisture issues affecting sanitation. By State requirements, these issues needed to be corrected, or have a plan in place, by September 2, 2025.

September 4, 2025 | Reinspection

An IDALS inspector returned to CRACC on September 4, 2025, to follow up on the City's progress. Their report is included at the end of this document.

Key Inspection Findings

- All IDALS requests were met with priority.
- All categories were found to be compliant or not applicable, except for two items which have pending work underway:
 - Ongoing environmental work addressing mold, soundproofing removal, and ceiling tiles.
 - Foster Oversight Organization certificate paperwork has been submitted and is under State review (review can take several months).
- A detailed remediation plan was submitted immediately upon introductions with CRACC interim manager and City Facilities staff. The plan is provided at the end of this summary.
- Invoices for completed and ongoing work are available upon request.

Highlighted Inspector Comments

- **"Cedar Rapids Animal Care and Control continues to meet the daily needs of each of its inhabitants. Animals are provided with necessary requirements, but also given comfort, training, and exercise."**
 - This recognition reflects the dedicated work of staff, volunteers, and City job share participants.
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- The inspector noted additional improvements can be attributed to work completed by the City Manager’s Office since being made aware of the concerns, including staffing concerns which have been addressed with three additional FTEs and additional temporary employees. The inspector noted:
 - **“At time of inspection, ample staffing and volunteer emphasis to direct animal care were more than sufficient.”**

CRACC Remediation Plan

The August 19, 2025 IDALS inspection set a September 2 deadline for CRACC to correct items or submit a correction plan. The remediation plan below outlines items noted in the August 19 report and their status, shared at the September 4 inspection:

Aug. 19 Inspection Findings	Facilities Maintenance Services Notes	Actions Taken & Plan Forward	Status
“It appears the City of Cedar Rapids has abandoned their responsibility to maintain a structure that was completed in 2013.”	FMS has responded to every work order submitted for maintenance items since the building opened. CRACC work orders from 11/2013 to 8/21/25 total 811.	Continue to work with CRACC staff on reported issues.	Ongoing
"Ongoing concerns with roof leaking (limited number of stained ceiling tiles)."	The FMS team and a contracted roofing vendor investigated every work order for roof leaks. All necessary repairs have been made.	There are no current roof leaks. Any future roof leaks reported will be investigated and repaired.	Completed
“Stained/compromised/dirty/moist ceiling tiles are potentially injurious to animals contained within enclosures directly beneath. Please remedy on or before Tuesday, September 2, 2025.”	Ceiling tiles were tested; results indicate the presence of common mold outdoors.	City hired an environmental testing service to evaluate reported locations. Testing confirmed the presence of common household mold. City contracted a vendor to perform mitigation. Initial mitigation was completed on August 17, 2025.	In Progress Estimated mitigation completion date is 09/30/25. This date will be updated based on discussions with vendor.
“Mold must be mitigated throughout on or before Tuesday, September 02, 2025. If a professional service is enlisted, please provide proof via invoices and applicable dates.”	FMS responded to potential mildew/mold as soon as notified.	More recently, mildew/mold was reported in additional areas. Testing confirmed the presence of common outdoor mold. The mitigation vendor’s contract was amended and mitigation is ongoing in the affected areas.	
“Mold, considered a toxic substance has been disclosed. Please remedy completely throughout entire structure on or before Tuesday, September 02, 2025. Or devise a swift short-term plan of action.”		As rooms are completed and returned to CRACC, FMS staff are installing PVC ceiling tiles to improve cleaning capability and help prevent future issues. Repairs to previously mitigated drywall areas are also in progress as of August 29, 2025. RFP process to identify mold remediation company has been underway since April of 2025.	
“Develop an immediate solution to dispatch all evidence of mold.”			

<p>“Ceiling tile structural grid with water droplets and condensation. Ventilation shall be environmentally provided so as to maintain adequate temperature and minimize drafts, moisture condensation, or odors. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers or air conditioning, must be provided when the ambient temperature is above 85 degrees F. Relative humidity must be maintained at a level that ensures the health and well-being of the animals housed in the housing facility. Indoor housing facilities must be capable of the following: (1) Maintaining humidity levels between 30% and 70%.”</p>	<p>This cooling season has seen higher-than-usual humidity levels. There is an outdoor air CFM requirement for the animals, where humid air is brought in. Additionally, facility cleaning requirements add humidity to the air by the nature of how they have to clean.</p>	<p>Throughout the cooling season, FMS and CRACC staff have held multiple discussions regarding cleaning practices. To meet the CRACC team’s requests for cooler temperatures —for both human and animal comfort — relative humidity levels increased.</p> <p>After discussions with CRACC management about the facility’s design narrative, a compromise was reached: raising the temperature setpoint by 4°F, which successfully reduced relative humidity.</p> <p>The City hired a third-party mechanical engineering firm to review the HVAC design. Their role is to provide recommendations not only for addressing humidity concerns, but also for verifying proper CFM per current code, improving odor and airflow management, and enhancing viral mitigation.</p> <p>To further support operations, the City purchased a specialized kennel-cleaning machine. This equipment improves cleaning efficiency, reduces water usage, and increases sanitation.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>“67.3(2) Primary Enclosures. b. Construction materials and maintenance shall allow the animals to be kept clean and dry. Walls and floors shall be impervious to urine and other moisture and lend themselves to efficient cleaning and sanitizing.”</p>	<p>FMS was informed of issues with the cove base and grout missing after the 8/19/25 inspection.</p>	<p>Discussions with CRACC staff highlighted this comment to issues with the cove base, as well as missing grout in some kennels.</p> <p>When notified, FMS staff repaired the cove base and replaced/sealed the grout in the indicated areas.</p> <p>Should further areas need attention in the future, FMS will address when notified.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & LAND STEWARDSHIP

ANIMAL INDUSTRY BUREAU
DES MOINES OFFICE: 515-281-6358

Animal Welfare Inspection Form

Insp Date: 9/4/2025

Business ID: 571

Inspection: AB005757

Business: CEDAR RAPIDS ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL
7241 Washington View Pkwy., SW

Store ID:

Phone: 319-286-5993

Livestock Inspector: 02 Stephanie Black

Reason: Reinspection

Results: NON-COMPLIANT

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404

Reference:

Licensee Information

License Number: 571

Expiration Date 09/01/2026

License Posted ..

This item has Notes. See Footnote 1 at end of questionnaire.

Inspection Categories

Commercial Breeder .. Animal Shelter .. Pet Shop ☒ Commercial Kennel ..

Boarding Kennel .. Pound ☒ Dealer .. Public Auction ..

Rescue .. In Home Facility .. Dog Daycare .. FOO ..

Number of Animals: Dogs 22 Cats 81 Puppies 15 Kittens 73

Rabbits ☒ Birds ☒ Reptiles .. Rodents .. Fish ..

Temperature 71F

Humidity 44%

Other:

INSPECTOR: MARK THE APPROPRIATE BUTTON

HOUSING FACILITIES

Yes No N/A

1. Structure and Repair

☒ ☒ ☒

This item has Notes and Media/Attachments. See Footnote 2 at end of questionnaire.

Notes Chapter 67.3(1)(a) Housing Facilities a. Buildings shall be of adequate structure and maintained in good repair so as to ensure protection of animals from injury.
[Work in Progress.]

2. Shelter

☒ ☒ ☒

3. Ventilation, Temperature and Odor

☒ ☒ ☒

This item has Notes. See Footnote 3 at end of questionnaire.

4. Lighting

☒ ☒ ☒

5. Ceilings, Walls, Floors

☒ ☒ ☒

This item has Notes and Media/Attachments. See Footnote 4 at end of questionnaire.



Livestock Inspector



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Animal Welfare Inspection Form

HOUSING FACILITIES		Yes	No	N/A
Notes	<p><i>Chapter 67.3(1)(f) Housing Facilities</i> <i>f. Ceilings, walls and floors shall be constructed so as to lend themselves to efficient cleaning and sanitizing. Such surfaces shall be kept in good repair and maintained so that they are substantially impervious to moisture. Floors and walls to a height of four feet shall have finished surfaces. No sharp or jagged edges may be present that may injure an animal. Animal contact surfaces must be free of excessive rust that prevents required cleaning and sanitizing or that affects the structural strength of the surface or that may be detrimental to the health of the animal.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>[Work in Progress]</i></p>			
	6. Storage	i	i	☒
	7. Group Housing, Runs & Exercise Areas	i	i	☒
	8. Drainage, Waste Disposal and Vermin Control	i	i	☒
PRIMARY ENCLOSURES		Yes	No	N/A
	9. Structure and Repair	☒	i	i
	10. Space and Group Housing	i	i	☒
	11. Ventilation & Temperature	☒	i	i
	12. Secured Latches	i	i	☒
CLEANING AND SANITATION		Yes	No	N/A
	13. Washrooms, Basins, Sinks	i	i	☒
	14. Cleaning and Sanitization	☒	i	i
CARE & HUSBANDRY		Yes	No	N/A
	15. Adequate Feed and Water	☒	i	i
	<i>This item has Notes. See Footnote 5 at end of questionnaire.</i>			
	16. Exercise	☒	i	i
	17. Personnel	☒	i	i
	<i>This item has Notes. See Footnote 6 at end of questionnaire.</i>			
VETERINARY CARE		Yes	No	N/A
	18. Isolation Facilities	☒	i	i
	19. Disease Prevention and Control (including vaccinations)	i	i	☒
	20. Symptoms, Illnesses and Treatment	i	i	☒
	21. Veterinary Agreement and Inspection	i	i	☒
TRANSPORTATION		Yes	No	N/A
	22. Primary Enclosures	i	i	☒
	23. Vehicles	i	i	☒
	24. Care in Transit	i	i	☒


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RECORDS	Yes	No	N/A
25. Purchase, Sale, Transfer, Adoption	i	i	☒
26. Animal Shelter and Pound Records	i	i	☒
BOARDING KENNEL AND COMMERCIAL KENNEL	Yes	No	N/A
27. Boarding Kennel and Commercial Kennel	i	i	☒
DEALER	Yes	No	N/A
28. Dealer	i	i	☒
DOG DAY CARE	Yes	No	N/A
29. Dog Day Care	i	i	i
RESCUE	Yes	No	N/A
30. Rescue	i	i	☒
IN HOME FACILITY	Yes	No	N/A
31. In Home Facility	i	i	☒
FOSTER OVERSIGHT ORGANIZATION	Yes	No	N/A
32. Foster Oversight Organization	i	☒	i

This item has Notes. See Footnote 7 at end of questionnaire.

Notes	<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>Chapter 67.11(1) Foster Oversight Organization</p> </div> <div style="flex: 2;"> <p><i>A registered animal shelter, registered pound or licensed dealer shall not operate a foster care home or operate an organization that utilizes a foster care home unless the shelter, pound or dealer is in compliance with this rule and other applicable provisions of this chapter and Iowa Code Chapter 162. If an out-of-state organization is utilizing foster care homes in Iowa, that organization must also be licensed or registered in the state of Iowa as an animal shelter, pound or dealer.</i></p> <p><i>[FOO submitted, not approved.]</i></p> </div> </div>
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Footnote 1

Notes:

Received a detailed remediation Plan of Action immediately upon introductions with Interim manager and City of Cedar Rapids facilities personnel. Invoices available upon request for work having been and currently being performed.

An internal city log shows that Facilities & Maintenance Services have responded to 811 work orders.

Roof does not appear to be leaking per FMS, City of Cedar Rapids.

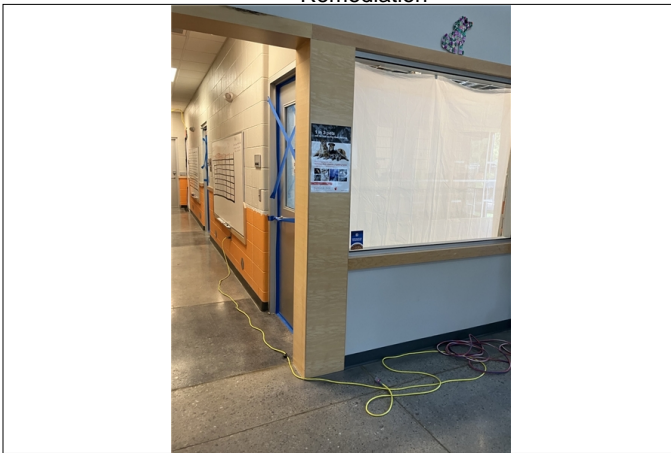
All IDALS requests have been met with priority. Reinspection will be at the request of City of Cedar Rapids upon completion.

Footnote 2

Notes:

Completion tentatively end of September 2025.

Remediation



Footnote 3

Notes:

Third party mechanical engineering has addressed seasonal temperature changes, ventilation, and humidity.



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Footnote 4

Notes:

Environmental work to address mold, sound proofing material (removed), and ceiling tiles is ongoing.

Interior Canine Room Remediation



Footnote 5

Notes:

Cedar Rapids Animal Care & Control continues to meet the daily needs of each of its inhabitants. Animals are provided with necessary requirements, but also given comfort, training, and exercise.

Footnote 6

Notes:

Staff have been added as is not of concern (with ongoing hiring).

Personnel hirings include: volunteer coordinator, additional ACO, temporary animal care taker.

At time of inspection, ample staffing and volunteer emphasis to direct animal care were more than sufficient.

Footnote 7

Notes:

Awaiting FOO approval.



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