



New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



www.nafcanimalshelter.org

July 2013

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Classifieds



Webster
Beagle
2.5 Years
N. Male

I am a well educated fellow, well versed in play and manners. Visit me at the shelter and let me stimulate your mind and soul!



Gerbils!

Females - 2-8 Months Old
All these feisty ladies are looking for new homes. They all could use a little more one on one but are doing well with learning to trust people.



Save More Than A Life

Sometimes people decide they don't want things anymore and just want it gone, as soon as possible. This is frequently the case with pets, and there are tons of ads in the newspaper or on the internet for "Free to good home" pets.

While it may be advertised as free, is it really? Frequently, these "free" animals have no vaccines, are not spayed or neutered, have not been tested for Feline Leukemia or FIV or Heartworms. Some may be flea ridden or diseased, and some may also have behavior issues that the owners don't want you to know about.

Taking an animal to the veterinarian without a previous history can be very costly! The charts above show the average costs local veterinarians charge for the given procedures on dogs and cats. This however does not

include licensing fees that may apply in your county of residence.

This "free" pet, has now cost you several hundred dollars in the best case scenario. While there are low cost programs for spay/neuter assistance, not all of the above procedures are available in low cost programs.

When an animal is adopted from the New Albany Animal Shelter, all of these items are already done when you take your new friend home. Many even have multiple rounds of the vaccinations! The shelter will also disclose any behavior issues that they are aware of.

Adoption doesn't just save a life, it saves money. Next time you are looking to bring in a new furry addition to the family, please turn to your local Shelter, not the "Free to good home" ads.

Cooling off the Pooch

Imagine wearing a fur coat in the summer. That's how our canine family members feel when they are outside.

On top of plenty of clean cool water (in nontip large bowls) and shade, here are a few ideas to help keep them cool on hot summer days.

A small wading pool can be a great place for a dog to cool off. Keep it in the shade (hot water won't help) and change the water frequently to discourage mosquito larvae. Just two or three inches of water may be adequate. Make sure your small dog can get in and out easily.

Sprinklers can also be a lot of fun for dogs to

play in. It can be rather amusing for the owners, too!

If your dog swims in your pool, supervise him at all times, and make sure he knows how to exit. If there are no steps or shallow areas, make sure the pool is fenced off to keep your dog from falling in. Sadly, many dogs drown each year, not because they couldn't swim, but because they jumped in and couldn't get out again.

Take advantage of all the new products designed to keep your pet cool, such as automatic water dispensers that attach directly to faucets, misting fans, thermal dog houses, and gel-filled beds, jackets and bandanas that stay



cool for hours.

Give your dog ice cubes or a frozen two liter of water to play with. Frozen ice cubes made of peanut butter and water can make great treats.

Help your dog enjoy the summer too, by helping them stay cool!

Those Pesky Flies

Humans are not the only ones annoyed by those pesky little flies. Dogs, too, can become easily annoyed and even wounded by flies. During the summer months when flies are at their worst, you may need to take some extra measures to insure that your dog is comfortable.

Fly bites cause a common condition in outside dogs, often called "fly strike." It most frequently occurs in dogs that live near farms with livestock, and occurs when flies land on and bite the tips and top surface of the dog's ears. They may also bite the bridge of the nose. They are biting the dog to obtain a blood meal and the bite is usually painful. Because of the thin skin and hair on the ears and the inability of the dog to defend his ears, flies will seek out this location. Some dogs will endure hundreds of bites a day for weeks at a time. Anyone that has ever been bitten by a stable fly knows how painful the bite is. If you see blood spots or flies congregating near your dog's



ears then you can assume fly bites are occurring. The bite wounds attract flies which may lay their eggs in the damaged tissue. These will later hatch into maggots.

Common signs of flybites normally occur on the ears, especially at the margins. They will have painful bumps, sometimes with scabs, or will actually bleed.

Whether you live in the city or country, do not underestimate the pain that these flies can inflict and be sure to initiate treatment at the first sign of fly bites on your pet. Gently cleanse the ear with warm water and a mild antiseptic soap. Then, apply a topical antibiotic ointment which will help to control any

infection which may be present. If the fly bites are severe, or maggots are present, veterinary attention is needed.

The most important treatment for this problem is prevention, which consists of applying a topical insecticide to the dog's ears. Pyrethrin or permethrin sprays and ointments are very effective in repelling flies and are available in commercial products. Always talk to your veterinarian before putting anything on your dog.

Moving the pet indoors during the heat of the day also will help. Spraying the dog's outside living quarters will also help keep fly numbers to a minimum. Remove any materials which may attract flies, e.g., fecal material, uneaten pet food, garbage, etc. Keep your pet clean and well-groomed, removing any urine-soaked or fecal-contaminated hair.

Any time that you are concerned about your pet's health, always check with a veterinarian for advice.

Coping with Pet Loss

Sorrow and grief are normal and natural responses to death. Like grief for humans, grief for animal companions can only be dealt with over time, but there are healthy ways to cope with the pain. Here are some suggestions:

Don't let anyone tell you how to feel, and don't tell yourself how to feel either. Your grief is your own, and no one else can tell you when it's time to "move on" or "get over it." Let



yourself feel whatever you feel without embarrassment or judgment. It's okay to be angry, to cry or not to cry. It's also okay to laugh, to find moments of joy, and to let go when you're ready.

Reach out to others who have lost pets. Check out online message boards, pet loss hotlines, and pet loss support groups. Chancespot.org can be a great resource. If your own friends, family members, therapist, or clergy do not work well with the grief of pet loss, find someone who does.

Rituals can sometimes help in healing. A funeral can help you and your family members openly express your feelings. Ignore people who think it's inappropriate to hold a funeral for a pet, and do what feels right for you.

Create a legacy. Preparing a memorial, planting a

tree in memory of your pet, compiling a photo album or scrapbook, or otherwise sharing the memories you enjoyed with your pet, can create a legacy to celebrate the life of your animal companion.

Look after yourself. The stress of losing a pet can quickly deplete your energy and emotional reserves. Looking after your physical and emotional needs will help you get through this difficult time. Eat a healthy diet, get plenty of sleep, and exercise regularly to release endorphins and help boost your mood.

Try to keep a regular routine. This will help all of those in the home including other pets and children.

Over time the pain of pet loss will subside, but their memories will always be in your heart.

Taking Responsibility

When someone takes in an animal, whether it be the stray kitten they just found or bringing in a new addition to the family, there is an immediate responsibility accepted that they will care humanely for the pet.

In some cases, the plan doesn't work out as expected. Maybe the animal is too active around the children or chews everything. Sometimes animals need to be relinquished to the shelter to try to find another home.

It is important to remember that many shelters are municipal and can only take in animals from the same county and with identification showing residency of the person surrendering the animal.

Occasionally, owners or finders will dump an animal on the street because it is an inconvenience to take them to the correct places at the

correct times. This is illegal, and puts the animal at risk.

Before you pick up that stray animal, you need to have a plan. Can you hang on to it for the night? If the answer is no, then you should not accept the responsibility of picking it up. Notify the local shelter of the situation.

Dumping an animal could cost the animal its life. Busy streets can easily harm or kill an animal. They can also be exposed to numerous illnesses; for instance, parvo. Taking it out of its community may also separate it further from its family. Shelter staff will have no information to help place it in a better suited home (if there are behavior problems) or find its owners. Animals left in carriers or tied up can easily strangle or get hurt trying to get away, or over heat from inadequate ventilation and



airflow. At our shelter, animals left in cages have been found dying from heat and even flooding in storms.

Look at the situation from the animal's eyes. If lost, would you want to be taken from an area where you might be able to find your way home only to be let out of a car scared in a new location with no sense of direction? Or would you want your beloved family to toss you out of the car helpless, instead of driving for ten more minutes to the proper shelter?

Please don't dump an animal whether owned or found. It could be a life or death situation.

Need your Pet Spayed or Neutered? We can help!

Bimonthly, The S.N.I.P. Clinic and the NAFC Animal Shelter assist in getting your pets altered for a discounted price. Call or visit the Shelter for more information or to sign your animals up!

Happy Tails: Gizmo

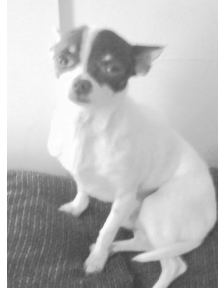
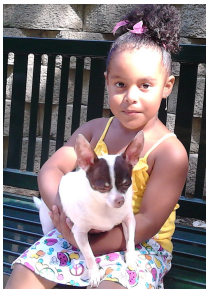
Gizmo is a very happy little chihuahua that was adopted from the shelter several years ago.

The family had been thinking about getting a smaller dog and decided to visit the shelter. They met him his first day up for adoption. They decided to take him home that day.

He is a beautiful match for his family. He gets along great with kids and the other animals, all of which were adopted from the shelter.

Gizmo loves to act like the giant protector of the house. He feels even bigger with his sweater on! This of course, is when he isn't snuggling with his family.

Have a happy tails story? Please email it to us with pictures at nafcanimalshelter@yahoo to help encourage pet adoption!



NAFC ANIMAL SHELTER INFORMATION

Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00-5:00PM

Saturday

11:00-2:30

Adoption Prices:

Cats over 4lbs - \$20

Cats under 4lbs - \$60

Dogs - \$80

Information Corner

Dog Days at the Drive-In was a huge success this year - raising more money than previous years to better the lives of those animals at the shelter!

Almost 100 dogs attended this year! There was entertainment for everyone who attended.

Here's a special thanks to all of those who helped us to make this event great. We couldn't have done it without you all!

