



New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



www.nafcanimalshelter.org

June 2013

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Classifieds



Holly
Chihuahua X
S. Female
6 Years Old

I may be a little bit older but I still have a little skip in my step. I get along with others as long as they aren't invading on my cuddle and toy time!



Poppers
DSH
S. Female
1 Year Old

I am the sweetest girl you'll ever meet! I love children and dogs but, I can get a bit spunky too if you want a little entertainment in your life!

Dog Days at the Drive-In

It's that time of year again! On June 22nd, the Georgetown Twin Drive-In Theater is opening its gates to four legged family members, allowing dogs on leash to attend for a \$2.00 admission fee. All dog admission fees collected will be donated to the NAFC Animal Shelter.

The Drive-In's main features will be Man of Steel and Disney's Monsters University. The two additional movies playing have not been announced yet. Besides these great movies, several exciting child and dog friendly events are planned. There are plans to have a coloring contest for the children's pleasure, while dogs can participate in a costume contest for scariest monster or best super hero, watch demonstrations, or kick back and relax with a pet massage! Booths will be set up by area dog related businesses and adoptable animals from area rescues will be in attendance. The NAFC Animal Shelter's P.A.W.S. Mobile Unit will be available for tours and visiting some of our adoptable animals. Special concessions will even be sold just for the dogs to enjoy on their day out!

Don't Forget your cash! The Shelter will be



hosting a silent auction for the first time at this event! So far we have over \$600 in items that will be available, and the donations are still coming in! Some items are restaurant gift certificates, Holiday World, Newport Aquarium, and Mammoth Cave Tickets! Watch the website as the event gets closer to see what items will be available! You won't want to miss our new Doggie Boutique either! We will have a variety of doggie shirts, collars, harnesses, and much more available for purchase with a donation!

There will also be a playpen set up for Furbaby Foster Shower donations!

Don't miss this fun filled family event! Gates open at 6:30pm. Further details and rules for bringing your pet will be available at the Drive-In website: www.georgetowndrivein.com

Causes of Heatstroke

Heatstroke- You've heard of it, you knew it affected people, and you were even vaguely aware that it could affect your pet. But how does it happen? And most important, how can you help your pet avoid it? Heatstroke is a deadly disease that can kill your beloved companion, even with emergency treatment. The best way to avoid this terrible situation is prevention, and it's all up to you.

Sun + humidity = heatstroke (and other factors that kill)

Everyone knows that the inside of a car on a hot summer's day can be lethal. But your pet needs you to know more than that to keep him safe in the deadly sun. Days above 70 degrees, especially with high humidity, are inherently dangerous for your pet. Humidity interferes with animals' ability to rid themselves of excess body heat. When we overheat we sweat, and when the sweat dries it takes excess heat with it. Our four-legged friends only perspire around their paws, which is not enough to cool the body. To rid themselves of excess heat, animals pant. Air moves through the nasal passages, which picks up excess heat from the body. As it is expelled through the mouth, the extra heat leaves along with it. Although this is a very efficient way to control body heat, it is severely limited in areas of high humidity or when the animal is in close quarters.

The shape of an animal's nasal passages can contribute to an animal's tendency to overheat. Brachiocephalic (pug-nosed) dogs are more prone to heatstroke because their nasal passages are smaller and it's more difficult for them to

circulate sufficient air for cooling. Overweight dogs are also more prone to overheating because of their extra layers of fat act as insulation, which traps heat in their bodies and restricts their breathing capabilities. Age can also be a factor in an animal's tendency to overheat--very young animals may not have a fully developed

temperature regulating system, and older pets' organ systems may not be functioning at 100 percent, leaving them prone to heat-related damage.

So where are the danger zones? The most obvious is your car: It can become a death trap even on a mild sunny day--and can insidiously raise the car's temperature to well above 120 degrees! Cracking the windows doesn't cut it. Never, ever leave your pet inside the car. If your dog can't come with you when you get out of the car, leave him at home. Even those "quick trips" may not be so quick, and your dog may suffer because of an unexpected hold up.

Leaving animals outdoors without shelter can be just as dangerous as leaving them inside a hot car. Be sure they are not left in a cage in the hot sun, on a chain in the backyard, or outdoors in a run without sufficient shade or air circulation.

Heatstroke is a medical emergency. If you suspect your pet has heatstroke, you must act quickly and calmly. Have someone call a veterinarian immediately. In the

CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

How long does it take for a car to get HOT?

Outside Temp (F)	Inside Temp (F)	
	10mins	30mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

DOGS DIE EVERY SUMMER
In minutes your car temps are deadly!

VeterinaryClinic.com

meantime, lower the animal's body temperature by applying towels soaked in cool water to the hairless areas of the body. Often the pet will respond after only a few minutes of cooling, only to falter again with his temperature soaring back up or falling to well below what is normal. With this in mind, remember that it is imperative to get the animal to a veterinarian immediately. Once your pet is in the veterinarian's care, treatment may include further cooling techniques, intravenous fluid therapy to counter shock, or medication to prevent or reverse brain damage.

Even with emergency treatment, heatstroke can be fatal. The best cure is prevention, and Fido and Fluffy are relying on you to keep them out of harm's way. Their lives are in your hands. Summer does not have to be fraught with peril--with ample precaution, both you and your furry friends can enjoy those long, hot, dog-days of summer.

Pet Grief Series:

When is the Right Time for Euthanasia?

Euthanasia of a pet is always a hard decision. There are many factors which contribute to such a decision. Some, such as chronic painful suffering, can be clear indicators for an immediate euthanasia. Others, such as stiffness or incontinence are less clear. Every circumstance is different, as is every pet, and every family.

There are a few methods that can be considered in helping to decide if the time is right for your pet. Look at the pet's quality of life. Is the animal able to get up and walk where it wants to go without much difficulty? Is he or she still able to eat, drink, and relieve himself regularly, maintaining weight? Or are they going to the bathroom inside because they can't hold it? Does the pet seem to be more aggressive (snapping, growling, etc) when interacting with the family? Many characteristics are not, by themselves, an indication for euthanasia. For example, stiffness and reduced interest in play may have little influence, if

the animal is otherwise doing fine.

Another method you can use along side of the quality of life evaluation is a pain assessment. The pain assessment allows you to estimate the amount of pain which a pet is experiencing. Unfortunately animals do not speak in human languages, so they cannot tell us in our language what amount of pain they are experiencing. As a result, the human companion must look for behavioral signs which are then interpreted as indicators of pain. Does the pet cry or moan when moving, repositioning, or using the restroom? Does he or she avoid all unnecessary activity? Is he or she unable to go up or down the stairs anymore? Of course, taking the animal to the vet to see what might be causing the pain should always be your first option. Medications and vitamins can be used to help loosen up stiff joints as sometimes joints will be worse seasonally. Pets can also get sprains, pulled

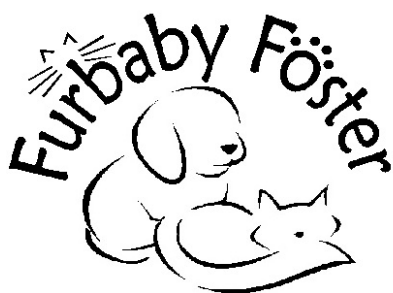


muscles and urinary tract infections, just like people. Eliminate possible easy fixes before deciding on euthanasia of a pet based on pain.

For some, euthanasia may not be an option at all. Rather, the family manages pain to the best of their ability and helps the pet along until he or she is ready to go on their own.

Some people do not feel comfortable with euthanasia because they are not really sure how it works. If this is how you feel, have a conversation with your veterinarian about the ins and outs of the procedure to see if it might be right for your family.

Furbaby Kitten Shower



Kitten season is in full swing at the Shelter! While cats can get pregnant year round, in the beginning of summer shelters around the world begin to see an influx of nursing moms and babies.

In most cases, litters of kittens must stay at the

shelter for several weeks while they finish nursing and grow to a safe size for surgery. Mother cats and kittens may have a harder time handling the stress of a shelter environment and may not be able to maintain their babies, or their own health, for an extended stay.

To welcome all of the new feline families, the New Albany Animal Shelter is hosting its first Furbaby Kitten Shower on June 28th from 6-8 PM! Families will be able to sign-up to be a Furbaby Foster Family. Enjoy lots of shower games, refreshments, and of course kittens!

Admission is free, but a donation would be appreciated. Donations will be collected in the Furbaby Playpen from June 15- 30th at the Shelter, as well as at the Dog Days at the Drive-In event on June 22nd. A wishlist of donated items can be found at the shelters website at www.nafcanimalshelter.org or at www.amazon.com (search nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com). Monetary donations are always welcome as well.

Join us for this event to celebrate the new arrivals or for more information on our foster program!

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: Maya

Maya came to the Shelter as a stray in December. In January she was finally old enough to get spayed and begin her search for her forever home.

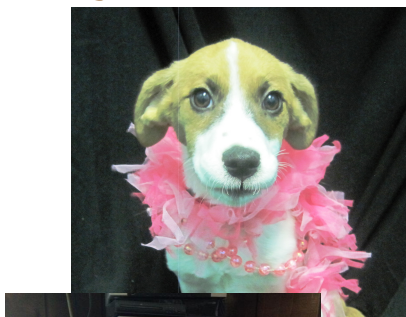
Not long after, her perfect match walked through our doors. They fell in love and decided to give it a try!

Being a whopping 14 pound puppy, we knew she had some growing to do. Now in her happy home, she is already 58 pounds after only 5 months! She still has some room to grow in to her feet!

With all the love in the world, and a little training, Maya has been able to flourish into an incredible part of the family!

Maya is another great example of how great life can be for both person and pet when adoption is chosen.

Do you have a happy tails story? Email us your story and pictures and you may be featured in the next newsletter!



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

Adopt-A-Cat Month

In honor of adopt a cat month, the shelter will be discounting the cats that are featured as pet of the weeks!

For the first 20 cat adoptions, new owners will receive a special revolution pack that comes with a frame magnet, coupons, 101 Cat Care book, and Health Record Log.

Cats over 4lbs. have an adoption fee of only \$20, while kittens under 4lbs have a \$60 adoption fee.

All cats are current on yearly vaccinations, microchipped, spayed or neutered, and Felv/FIV tested negative.

Adopt a cat today!

