



Humane Society of Northern Virginia

powered by

Advocates for Abused and Abandoned Pets (A3P)

END OF SUMMER 2025



President's Corner

Faithful Friends on the Streets: Pets Who Live with the Homeless and How You Can Help

It's not uncommon to see someone experiencing homelessness with a dog curled up at their feet or a cat tucked safely in a blanket. These pets are more than companions. They are protectors, comforters, and may be the only family their owner has. Life on the streets is unimaginably hard, but the bond between a homeless person and their pet is powerful, deeply emotional, and deserving of our compassion and support.

For people without housing, a pet offers emotional stability in a world that can feel isolating and unsafe. These animals provide unconditional love; protection from danger; routine and responsibility; and something to live for during tough times.

Pet owners who are homeless will often put their pet's needs above their own by sharing meals, sleeping in cold weather rather than going to a shelter that doesn't allow pets, and going without medical care or supplies to keep their animals healthy.

While the love is strong, the challenges are real. Homeless pet owners often struggle to find shelters that allow pets, access affordable or free veterinary care, obtain food and supplies for their pets, and overcome public stigma as many people unfairly question their ability to care for an animal. These obstacles can keep individuals from seeking help, all because they refuse to abandon the one constant in their lives — their beloved pet.

The relationship between a homeless individual and their pet is filled with loyalty, resilience, and love. Keeping that bond intact can be life-changing.

With small acts of kindness, we can help make a difference and create a more compassionate world where no one is forced to choose between shelter and the love of their pet.

Christy Lynn, President

Upcoming Events

(All events will take place at our rescue center unless specified.)

Sep 27: [Low Cost Vaccine Clinic](#), 10am–3pm. Vaccinations and other services for your dog or cat are available at our popular vaccine clinic with [Heart to Heart Mobile Pet Care](#).

Sep 27: [Paw Palooza](#), 11am–2pm, Association Office Grounds, 12350 Oakwood Drive in Lake Ridge. Stop by our booth to pick up affordable pet accessories.

Oct 4: [Prince William County Fire & Rescue System 2nd Annual Fall Expo](#), 12–5pm, Pfitzner Stadium in Woodbridge. Stop by our booth where we will be selling accessories for your pets.

Oct 11 and 26: [Stohlman Subaru of Tysons Adoption Event](#), 8435 Leesburg Pike in Vienna. Drop by to meet some of our adorable cats and dogs available for adoption!

Oct 18: [Pet Photos with the Grim Reaper](#), 10am–2pm. Bring your pet to get a photo with the Grim Reaper! Dressing your pet up in a Halloween costume is highly encouraged!

Oct 18 and 25: [Subaru of Sterling Adoption Event](#), 21736 Auto World Cir in Sterling. Come meet some of our adorable cats and dogs available for adoption!



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@a3p_advocates



A3PAdvocates



@a3petlovers

More Upcoming Events!

(The below events will take place at our rescue center.)

Nov 14: [Cats, Cuddles & Cuppa](#), 11am–1pm. Spend a few hours relaxing with our adorable cats and kittens with other cat lovers while enjoying tasty treats and (non-alcoholic) drinks!!

Dec 6: [Santa Paws Photos](#), 11am–3pm. Bring your pet to get a photo with Santa!

Dec 14: [The Grinch Movie Night](#), 5–8pm. Calling all kids to spend the evening with us watching *The Grinch*, doing crafts, cuddling with cats and kittens, and munching on treats!



Deadline Oct 18: [6th Annual Pet Calendar Contest](#). Support our work by submitting your pet's photo for our 2026 Pet's for Life Calendar. Be sure to have your friends and family vote for your pet! Visit <https://bit.ly/2026PetCalendarContest>



Halloween Pet Safety

Don't give your pet Halloween sweets which often contain ingredients that are harmful to pets.

Keep pets indoors. If your pet is afraid of strangers or runs to the door when someone knocks, keep them in a room away from the front door.

Reduce stress by keeping your pet in a safe room in the house.

Don't leave a costumed pet unsupervised. If your pet is wearing a costume, ensure it fits properly, allows them to move freely, and doesn't have pieces that can be chewed off or cause choking.

Keep Halloween decorations out of reach of your pet.

Make sure your pet is microchipped and wearing an ID tag in case they escape from the house.



Impactful Ways You Can Support Homeless People and Their Pets

- **Donate Pet Supplies** like blankets, pet food, leashes, toys, and collapsible water bowls. Many shelters, outreach organizations, and food banks accept these items and distribute them to pet owners in need.
- **Support Pet-Friendly Services** like shelters or programs that provide temporary shelter or housing for people and their pets. These places need funding and volunteers.
- **Offer Compassion** with a kind word, a warm smile, or simple acknowledgement of both the person and their pet. If you are comfortable doing so, ask if they need pet food or supplies and offer what you can.
- **Volunteer Your Time or Skills:** Many local organizations welcome volunteers for outreach, care events, or pet supply drives.



Operation Landfill

In early April, we assessed a growing feral cat population near a landfill. These cats were crossing a road to take refuge on private property. Unfortunately, some don't make it safely across. There were about 45 cats on the property, most of them hiding in the woods and around woodpiles. We also identified a large number of kittens, ranging from just 2 days to 4 months old.

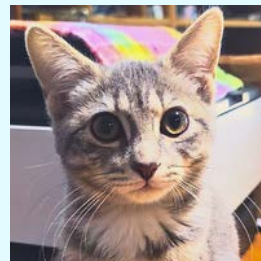
Our goals are to safely remove kittens as early as possible to protect them from dangers posed by local wildlife, spay/neuter the adult cats, and take in pregnant cats to provide them with a safe place to give birth and care for their kittens. So far, we have managed to rescue four sets of kittens and a few pregnant cats.

Without intervention, this cat population would continue to grow, resulting in more suffering and hardship. Each cat we trap, fix, and return is one less struggling to survive and one step closer to a healthier colony.



Emily

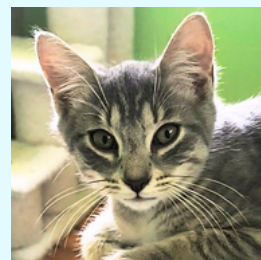
A few kittens rescued during Operation Landfill still waiting for their forever homes!



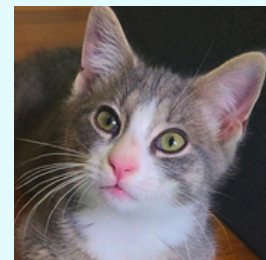
Eleanor



Huey



Louie



Dewey

Since starting our TNR efforts last January, we've helped 107 community cats at three locations (truck farm, landfill, and apartment complex). Though most of these cats were relocated or returned to the location where they were originally trapped, we were able to adopt 29 cats into loving homes. Of the 107 cats, we rescued 32 kittens (21 have been adopted so far!). Our work is making a difference by stabilizing local community cat populations, giving community cats a chance to live healthier lives, and socializing kittens so they can be adopted.

Operation Truck Farm Update

Last January, we started a TNR program at a rundown truck farm where dozens of feral cats were starving and freezing. We spayed/neutered as many as we could, fed them, and built 30 winter shelters. We successfully relocated 16 of these cats to a safer place where they could be cared for.

Finding a new area to relocate feral cats for their safety can be challenging. Thankfully, a fellow pet lover offered the use of an empty shed on several acres of land for the cats to live out their lives. Though they may never become indoor cats, they are well-cared for with nice accommodations and lots of food. And they are learning to tolerate humans!

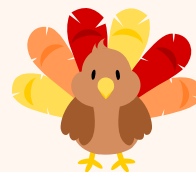
The success of any TNR program is because of community members like you who care and support efforts to save lives.













Holiday Dinner for your Dog

Good & Bad Treats from the Table*



Okay

Avoid

✓ Unseasoned, cooked, skinless white turkey meat		Turkey skin and bones, ham	✗
✓ Plain, cooked butternut squash, potatoes, and sweet potatoes		Stuffing	✗
✓ Plain cooked or raw green beans		Onions, garlic, leeks, shallots, scallions	✗
✓ Pumpkin puree (canned and sugar-free), brown rice		Raw bread dough	✗
✓ Corn (but not on the cob!)		Alcohol	✗
✓ Peas, spinach, carrots, broccoli		Grapes, raisins	✗
✓ Apples, pears, fresh cranberries		Anything with chocolate, sugar, or artificial sweeteners in it	✗
✓ Peanut butter		Nuts (macadamia nuts, pecans, walnuts, almonds, hazelnuts)	✗

* For more information: [Chewy](#), [PetMD](#), [American Kennel Club](#)



Cold Weather Safety Tips for Your Pet*

Keep them indoors. If it's too cold for you, it's too cold for them! If you can't keep them indoors, make sure they have solid, dry, warm shelter that is off the ground.

Protect their paws from salt and other de-icers. Massage petroleum jelly onto their paw pads before going outside and thoroughly clean their feet and bellies when they come back inside. Check their skin, coat, and paws for cracks or dryness. Wearing booties offers extra protection.

Know their limit for being outside. Preexisting conditions (e.g., arthritis, diabetes), type of coat (long or short hair), body type or size, and activity level can affect their tolerance for cold weather.

Watch for hypothermia. If your pet is shivering, whining, weak, or not moving, take them inside immediately. Like humans, your pets are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia.

Make sure they are microchipped and wearing an ID tag. More dogs are lost during the winter than any other season!

Keep them warm. Put short-haired dogs in a sweater to protect them from the cold. Make sure your pet has a warm place to sleep indoors.



Adopt Me!



Stay off of frozen water like lakes or ponds. If your dog breaks through the ice, it can be deadly.

Antifreeze is deadly. Wipe up any spills and keep it out of reach. De-icers can make your pet sick if ingested.

Don't leave pets alone in a cold car. During cold weather, cars can become like a refrigerator.

Check your car before starting it. Warm engines can be a much needed heat source for feral cats, but it can be deadly for them. Before starting your car, look underneath it, bang on the hood, and honk the horn to make sure there is no cat under the hood.

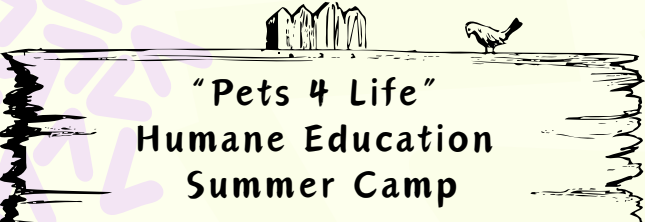
Be careful with space heaters. They can burn your pet. Pets may also knock them over which could cause a house fire.

Be prepared. Put together a pet emergency supply kit.

Speak out if you see a pet left out in the cold. Kindly let the owner know you're concerned. If the owner continues to neglect their pet, report it. For information about how to report neglected animals left outside in extreme temperatures, visit the [Humane World for Animals](#).

*From the [American Veterinary Medical Association](#), [ASPCA](#), and the [Humane World for Animals](#).





"Pets 4 Life" Humane Education Summer Camp

Our second "Pets 4 Life" Humane Education Summer Camp in July was such a blast with this outstanding group of young animal advocates! Our lessons centered around responsible pet ownership and being kind to animals with topics ranging from caring for animals (including wildlife) to dog fighting and everything in-between.

We are so grateful that representatives from [Return 2 Home Lost Pet Resources](#), [Pooch Purrfect Pet Spa](#), [Wildlife Rescue League](#), [Town of Dumfries Police Department](#), and the [Prince William County Animal Services Bureau](#) all took time from their busy schedules to speak with the campers and reinforce proper care and treatment of animals.

The camp couldn't have happened without our amazing volunteers who not only taught lessons but also arrived super early every day to ensure the center was clean and ready for the day's activities. And a big "Thank You" to Alyce for sponsoring the camp t-shirts!



Easter Egg Hunt



We had so much fun at our Easter Egg Hunt for our local neighbors this year! The weather was perfect. The kids collected a ton of candy- and sticker-filled eggs, played games, and enjoyed delicious Papa John's pizza, followed up with cookies and juice.

We were delighted to have Dumfries Police Department's finest stop by to give out candy, stickers, and coloring books.

A very special thank you to our awesome volunteers...we are fortunate to have the best volunteer team ever!



4th Annual Craft & Vendor Fair

Our 4th Annual Craft & Vendor Fair was a big hit! We had 52 vendors selling home goods, tasty treats (for humans and dogs), art, toys, children's books, clothing, accessories (for humans and pets), gift baskets, and so much more! We were thrilled to welcome characters from the Star Wars universe, and a surprise visit from Pink Panther!

This event also highlights organizations that work in the animal welfare space. This year we had several booths including [Pearl Veterinary Hospital](#), [Tacketts Mill Animal Veterinary Hospital](#), [Mid-Atlantic Great Dane Rescue League](#), [Lili's Pet Support](#), [DASH](#), and [Miri's Haven Rescue](#).

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up, clean up, and make sure everything went smoothly.



Volunteer Lysa with Pink Panther



Characters from the Star wars universe!



Salty Paws Doggie Ice Cream Truck



Scrapy



Miss B



Prince



Princess

Success Story: The Four Grays

We're happy to share the news that Prince, Princess, Miss Bisque, and Scrapy have been adopted! These super sweet siblings arrived at our rescue center as tiny, scared kittens in July 2023. They suffered health issues soon after coming into our care but eventually got better. They love attention but have always been shy around strangers. This meant they were overlooked by potential adopters again and again. One day, fate brought them and their forever families together. Prince was adopted in February; Miss Bisque joined her new family in June; and Princess and Scrapy were adopted together in August. We never gave up on them, patiently waiting for their human families to find them. We're thrilled these deserving kitties found loving homes where they will blossom, thrive, be cherished, and live long, happy lives. This is what makes rescue work worth it!





Truffles

Adopt Me!

Thank you

to our Sponsors, Partners, and Volunteers!!



Sammy

Adopt Me!

The success of our 100% volunteer-run charity depends on the dedication and support of our volunteers, foster care providers, adopters of our rescues, sponsors, and those who donate and provide services. **We appreciate and are grateful for everyone who supports the work we do. We cannot do it without you!** The more help we get, the more pets we can save!

Please consider becoming a sponsor. Check out our levels of sponsorship at <https://www.humanesocietynv.org/sponsorship>.

If you're interested in supporting a fundraiser or would like to sponsor the adoption or spay/neuter fee for one of our pets, please email us at a3padvocates@gmail.com.

A huge THANK YOU to Stohlman Subaru of Tysons and Subaru of Sterling for their partnership, support, and passion for pets in need!



Our recent adoptions. We wish you happiness in your forever homes!



Thank you to Dr. Chisolm and her fantastic team at [Heart to Heart Mobile Pet Care](#) for helping 118 pets at our low-cost vaccine clinics in April, June, and July. Providing vaccines and other services to pets is a critical resource for the community! We are grateful for Dr. Chisolm and her team's dedication to helping pets.

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A3PAdvocates

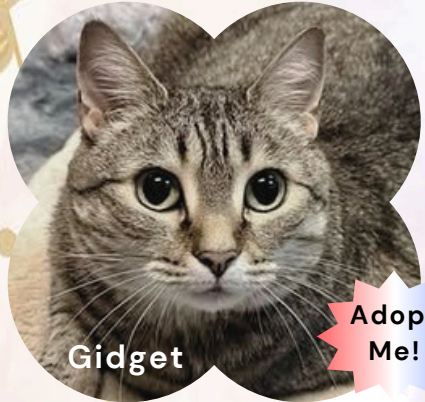


@a3petlovers

Pet Pantry*

If you, or someone you know, needs help with dog food, please reach out. This is one example of our commitment to help keep pets with their owners. We always need donations to keep the pantry stocked so if you can help, please select pet food items from our [Amazon](#), [Chewy](#), and [Cuddly](#) Wish Lists.

*We are currently unable to help with cat food due to the number of kitties we have.



Gidget

Adopt Me!

chewy.com

Shop our **Chewy** Wish List

https://www.chewy.com/g/advocates-for-abused-and-abandoned-pets_b73309598



amazon

Shop our **amazon** Wish List.

We have separate wish lists for desperately needed, always needed, food, and miscellaneous items.

https://linktr.ee/a3psecretary?utm_source=linktree_profile_share&sid=c3e610ea-1adc-44cb-a636-354a3dc8594c

CUDDLY

Shop our **CUDDLY**

Wish List

<https://cuddly.com/pantry/4912858/humane-society-of-northern-virginia>

Donate Goods & Services

Please call us at **571-931-0796** to discuss partnerships and/or donation drop offs. We always need Fancy Feast wet kitten food, IAMS kitten or adult dry food, fleece blankets and towels, Frontline or Advantix flea treatment for dogs and cats, puppy pads, and gift cards to PetSmart, Petco, and Tractor Supply.

ADOPT
IF YOU CAN'T ADOPT
FOSTER
IF YOU CAN'T FOSTER
SPONSOR
IF YOU CAN'T SPONSOR
VOLUNTEER
IF YOU CAN'T VOLUNTEER
DONATE
IF YOU CAN'T DONATE
EDUCATE

Lost & Found Resources

HSNV/A3P: <https://www.humanesocietynv.org/lost-and-found-pets>

Prince William Lost & Found: <https://bit.ly/PWCLostandFound>

Fredericksburg Lost & Found: <https://bit.ly/FredericksburgLostandFound>

Stafford County Lost & Found: www.staffordcountyanimalcontrol.com/lost-and-found

Return 2 Home (R2H) Lost Pet Resources: <https://www.return2home.org/>

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Donations are Appreciated!!

Please go to our website to donate now!

Donate

OR mail in this donation form:

Please print out and fill in this form and mail it with your donation to:

A3P
P.O. Box 36
Thornburg, VA 22565

Name:
Address:
City / State / Zip Code:
Phone:
Email address:

Yes! I would like to help A3P continue to rescue homeless animals with my donation of (please check box):

\$1,000 \$500 \$125 \$50 Other

I am interested in volunteer opportunities with A3P.

Call us at (571) 931-0796

Visit us online at
www.humanesocietynv.org or
www.facebook.com/A3PAdvocates



Drop by and visit our rescues!

We're located at:
17983 Dumfries Shopping Plaza
Dumfries, VA

The rescue animals thank you!

A3P is a non-profit organization exempt from tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; charitable contributions are tax deductible.

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ADVOCATE

EDUCATE

RESCUE