



**rescue
village**

Pet Resource Guide

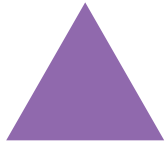


www.rescuevillage.org



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Rehoming Your Pet

We understand that circumstances in life can sometimes mean that you may find yourself in need of finding a new home for your pet or the pet of a loved one. If you're in this situation, we'd like to encourage you to try and re-home your pet directly rather than bringing them to the shelter. This is often a much more calming and comforting way for ownership to change hands for the pet, and means that you are able to be fully involved in the process.

We're here to help and can recommend some key tips and tricks to make the process go quite smoothly. If however, you feel you've exhausted all your options, know that you can of course contact us to discuss your choices.

We ask that if you need to surrender your pet to our shelter that you visit our website to submit a surrender form. If you do not have the ability to fill this form out online; please give our Welcome Desk a call at (440) 338-4819 ext. 10 for assistance.

To fill out a surrender form and read more about the surrender process go to:

<https://www.rescuevillage.org/adopt/giving-up-your-pet/>

Tips for Writing a Pet Description

One of the key components of rehoming a pet is sharing information with potential new families to help find a good match. It's tempting when writing these descriptions to share the details of why you are needing to find a new home for the pet, but remember that many people skim when reading long paragraphs and may find it more engaging to read about what to expect when living with this pet, what they enjoy, and the things that make them happy.

We recommend always being honest and forthcoming about your pet, but keeping the pet description largely positive is also important to encouraging interest.

Again, when we say keep it positive, we don't mean hiding the truth. But keep in mind that we all have different expectations of life with pets. A dog who chases or doesn't get along with cats may make a perfect pet for someone who is looking for a companion for their other dogs or a person with a cat allergy.

Some examples of keeping your language positive and matchmaking focused:

INSTEAD OF:

- Needs a lot of exercise
- Needs too much attention
- Isn't good with my kids
- Hates other animals

TRY THIS:

- Will make a great running partner
- Loves people / being by your side
- Needs the peace of a home without children
- Would prefer not to share a home with other pets / Would like to be your one-and-only

You can also use templates to help craft a pet description or bio for you pet if you need more guidance. Most prospective families want to know a bit about what to expect and what life will look like with this animal, so start there!

BIO-WRITING ROADMAPS

• for fast and effective pet bios •

The 'roadmap' approach makes writing accurate, engaging bios easier when time and resources are limited! Try these tailored sets, or mix n' match.

FAST AND SIMPLE

MEET _____ I

HER/HIS FAVORITE THING IS _____

BUT HE'S/SHE'S NOT AS INTO _____

HE/SHE NEEDS _____

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO KNOW ABOUT _____ IS _____



For more resources on writing pet descriptions, including fill-in-the-blank tools or other language suggestions, visit www.heartsspeak.org/edu & search "bio writing"

Other Tips for Matchmaking Success

A few other tricks to successful rehoming:

- Don't rule out potential new homes before you learn more. It can be tempting to put a lot of restrictions on what you think is the perfect new home for the pet, for instance "must have fenced yard" or "must work less than 40 hours per week". But consider that "perfect" may look different than you imagine: Someone without a fenced yard who walks the dog on a leash is arguably giving them more attention and exercise than letting them out the door into the yard. And someone who works 60 hours a week but splits their time between home and work, or hires a pet sitter, is still giving excellent attention
- Check your email regularly and use an email address you can view frequently. Rehoming websites will use that email to get in touch with you and allow potential new homes to ask questions, etc.

Tips for Great Photos

In addition to the pet description, photos are really important to catching the attention of someone who might want to adopt your pet. Photos (and video clips!) are a great way for the potential new caretaker to connect with the pet. Try for about 4 different images to show variety!

Here are some quick tips for taking better cell phone photos at home:



Get On Their Level + Fill Frame

Rather than stand and take a photo of a pet from above, crouch down so you're taking the photo more at eye level with them. Also try and be sure they are taking up most of the photo, rather than appearing as a small part of a larger photo. This helps more accurately show size and connect with their eyes.



Use Natural Light + Avoid Harsh Sun

Oftentimes people think that a clear, sunny day is perfect for pictures -- but it's actually the opposite! Sunny days make for harsh shadows and squinting, which even affects pets! Look for a shady spot or a cloudy day and your photos will be gorgeous. Using natural light like this is preferable to florescent overhead lights.(even when indoors, just try to position things so the window is behind you, the photographer).



Pay Attention to Background

To maximize connection and impact, try to take a photo without much clutter or distraction in the background -- we want the pet to be the star!



Shoot for Eye Contact

Use a funny noise, a treat, or toy --- held right over the lens of your camera -- to get a photo where the pet is looking at you and making eye contact.

Getting the Pet Ready for Rehoming

A healthy pet is easier to rehome so try and be sure that your pet is up to date on vaccines. If possible, reach out to your vet and ask for copies of your veterinary records to pass along to the new owners.

If your pet is not spayed/neutered, it's important to have that done before they are rehomed. You can see the "Medical Resources" section of this guide for more information on how and where to find low-cost options.

Getting the Word Out

There are a few options for posting your pet on websites that specialize in rehoming and offer specific platforms for simple, safe and free ways of transferring ownership to a new owner.

Rehome by Adoptapet.com

To list your pet on this site, visit rehome.adoptapet.com and create a profile. Not only does this site get seen by thousands of potential pet parents in your area, it also allows you to review applications for your pet and set up meetings with potential new families.

Home to Home

Home to Home is another platform that allows you to post your pet -- but you need a local shelter to be associated with the profile you create. Visit home-home.org and search by zip code to find a shelter near you -- and if your local shelter is not participating you can request that Home to Home onboard them so you can get started.

Rescue Me!

Rescue Me is a site that can help reach community members within 2 hours of you sharing your pet's information. They email adopters in your area based on the breed of your pet and interest on their mailing list. Visit rescueme.org

Using Social Media

Once you post your pet on a rehoming site, you can then share the link to their profile on social media to help circulate it and get more eyes on them.

When you post on any social network to share your pet, try these quick tips for success:

- Tell a story. Sometimes a heartfelt story about your pet and your search for a safe place for them to land can help people understand your choice to rehome and help get the post shared to other potential adopters.
- Be descriptive. Use the same advice as you did when writing your pet description - be positive, share important basics (weight/size, age, preferences, etc).
- Choose your cutest / favorite photo. Grab attention and help show off their best side! Make sure it's a recent photo and accurately represents them
- Include your contact info or ask people to DM you. If there's a deadline for seeking the new home or other critical info share that too.

Facebook

On Facebook you can not only share a link to Rehome or Home to Home, you can also seek out facebook groups or local pet groups in your area to post about your pet. If you're a member of local community groups (church, social clubs, community service orgs) you can ask the admin of the group if you're allowed to post there as well.

Twitter or Instagram

If you're a regular user of either of these platforms, then definitely share your pet there and include hashtags like #rehome #adoptadog #adoptacat #petadoption as well as hashtags for your local area or neighborhood to make sure you're zeroing in on the right audience.

Nextdoor

Nextdoor is a neighborhood or community based social network so really helps ensure you're posting to folks nearby.

Other Networks & Community Connections

Consider other off-line connections you have to help get the word out. You never know who might be looking for a pet!

- Friends
- Family members
- Neighbors
- Co-workers
- Community contacts
 - School
 - Church, Synagogue, House of worship
 - Membership groups
 - Community-based organizations

You can also make flyers -- using the same basic information you used in your online pet description and a few great photos -- and post them in different locations around your community:

- Veterinarian
- Pet supply store
- Feed Store
- Coffee Shop
- Restaurants / Diners
- Work, school or other community bulletin boards

Meet & Greet: Interviewing Potential Adopters

You want to find the best possible match for your pet, so the first step is transparency. Share with the future family any medical information, behavior information (to the best of your knowledge), the pet's personality and lifestyle in your home, and tendencies.

From there, some thoughtful questions can help you learn more about the prospective adopter and their family:

- What is a typical day like in your home?
- What qualities are you hoping for in a pet?
- What behaviors would be hard for you to tolerate or difficult to manage in a pet?
- Do you have other pets? Tell me about them
- Are their children in your family? If very young, will they be supervised with the new pet?
- What questions do you have for me about our life with the pet?

If it's an option for you, consider doing a trial sleepover where the pet goes to stay and you check back in. If you're able to take the pet back temporarily, let the new adopters know that you'd like that option if things do not work out.

Problem Solving and Solution Building

We know it's not an easy decision to rehome your pet. And it's often a decision that a lot of thought has gone into. However, if you find yourself confronting one specific issue or another, consider the solution board below.

Rehoming Solutions

ISSUE

POTENTIAL SOLUTION

"I got a new job and there's no time for my pet"



Have you considered a doggy day-care or a dog walker?

"I can't afford my pet any longer because of extenuating circumstances." (Ex: job loss)



Have you asked someone you already know if they can take care of the dog until you resituate yourself?

"My pet has health issues which I can't afford to manage."



Have you checked out low-cost options in your area? (See Medical Resources in this guide)

"A sickness/injury is significantly preventing me from taking care of my dog"



If your situation is temporary, are there family or friends to help and take care of your pet while you're able to recover.

"My pet is not getting along with the other pets in the home / showing signs of agitation.

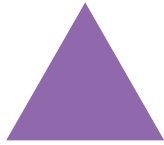


If they previously got along with other pets or just recently began to change behavior, consider taking them to a vet first to see if it might be caused by feeling unwell.

"My pet has separation anxiety, or his energy is a mismatch for us"



Are there things you could change about their exercise routine or mental stimulation? A bored pet can sometimes be destructive but activity can reduce this.



Medical Resources

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

Low-Cost Vaccines / Veterinary Services/ Spay & Neuter Services

Pet Fix Northeast Ohio

<https://www.petfixnortheastohio.org/>

Low-cost spay and neuter services

Call: (216) 732-7040

Email: director@petfixnortheastohio.org

Fix-it in the Farmland

<https://www.rescuevillage.org>

Low-cost spay and neuter services

Program that Rescue Village offers in partnership with Pet Fix of Northeast Ohio

Call: (440) 338-4819 ext. 21

Valley Save a Pet

<https://valleysaveapet.org/>

Spay/neuter and some medical expense assistance

Call: (440) 232-9124

Email: vsapcats4u@yahoo.com

Pet Vet by VIP Pet Care

petvet.vippetcare.com

Affordable Preventative Veterinary Care

Located in Tractor Supply & Company

Operates on Sundays only

Locations include Chardon and Middlefield

Call: 1-800-472-7973

One of a Kind Pet Rescue Spay & Neuter Clinic

www.oneofakindpets.com

Located in Akron, OH

Spay/Neuter and other veterinary services

Call: (330) 865-6890

Email: scheduling@oneofakindpets.org

Willowick Pet Food Pantry

www.willowickpetfoodpantry.org

Offer vouchers for spay/neuter and assistance for other veterinary resources

Call: (440) 520-4881

Email: willowickpetfoodpantry@gmail.com

Financial Assistance / Funding for Medical Resources

National Orgs

Red Rover COVID-19 Relief

<https://redrover.org/2020/07/08/coronavirus-covid19/>

Help for urgent care and emergency boarding and a list of other national resources.

Waggle

<https://waggle.org/>

Submit your pet's profile and Waggle donors give to help crowdfund. For pets with cancer visit wagglefoundation.org/riedelcody

Feeding Pets of the Homeless

<http://www.petsofthehomeless.org/>

Medical & food assistance for pets of the homeless.

Frankie's Friends

<https://www.frankiesfriends.org/>

Support for emergency and specialty medical care

Brown Dog Foundation

<http://www.browndogfoundation.org/>

Help with prescription medications

Shakespeare Animal Fund

<https://www.shakespeareanimalfund.org/>

Emergency care, especially COVID-19 related

Onyx & Breezy Foundation

<https://www.onyxandbreezy.org/>

Assistance for medical care, food, and critical cases

The Humane Society of the U.S. - Pet Support Resources

www.humanesociety.org/resources/are-you-having-trouble-affording-your-pet

An extensive list of resources, both national and organized by state -- for everything from medical to supplies, and other support.

The Pet Fund

<https://thepetfund.com/>

The Pet Fund has a grant program that provides assistance for medical issues
Email: info@thepetfund.com

Financial Assistance / Funding for Medical Resources

National Orgs

Paws 4 A Cure

www.paws4acure.org

Paws 4 A Cure provides financial assistance to qualified families throughout the United States who cannot afford veterinary care for their beloved furry family members without our help. Paws 4 A Cure does not discriminate against breed, age, or diagnosis.

Rose's Fund for Animal

(877) 505-4234

www.rosesfund.org

Rose's Fund recognizes that it takes more than love to save a life, and all animals deserve a chance. They will financially assist, to the best of their ability, pet owners and Good Samaritans who have an animal with a good prognosis for a healthy life, but are at a financial loss.

Pets of the Homeless

<https://www.petsofthehomeless.org/about-us/what-we-do>

Our task, nationwide, is to feed and provide basic emergency veterinary care to their pets and thus relieve the anguish and anxiety of the homeless who cannot afford to provide for their pets.

Bummer Fund

(330) 406-9668

www.bummerfund.org/wp/

Email: bummerfund@bummerfund.org

The Bummer Fund provides financial support to responsible pet owners in times of temporary medical crisis or emergency for a pet.

****Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana County residents only.****

Bow Wow Buddies Foundation

www.bowwowbuddies.com

Contact: online

Provides funding to dogs who are homeless or whose pet parents cannot afford to pay their vet bills.

Help-A-Pet

P.O. Box 244

Hinsdale, IL 6022

<https://www.help-a-pet.org/>

Provides financial assistance nationwide for the medical care of pets whose owners are unable to afford the expense.

****Income qualifications of individual income below \$20,000 a year or family/household income of \$40,000 a year or below.****

Financial Assistance / Funding for Medical Resources

National Orgs

The Mosby Foundation

<https://themosbyfoundation.org/>

Email: info@themosbyfoundation.org

(540) 885-2260

Assists in the care of critically sick, injured, abused, and neglected dogs through financial support and public education.

Local Resources

Willowick Pet Food Pantry

www.willowickpetfoodpantry.org

Offers assistance for other veterinary resources

Call: (440) 520-4881

Email: willowickpetfoodpantry@gmail.com

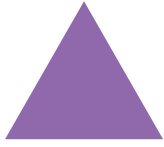
Valley Save a Pet

<https://valleysaveapet.org/>

Some medical expense assistance

Call: (440) 232-9124

Email: vsapcats4u@yahoo.com



Behavior & Training

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National Resources

Best Friends - Pet Training Resources

<https://resources.bestfriends.org/pet-training>

Body language, training tips, and enrichment

ASPCA

<https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care>

Dog, cat, equine care tips

Dr. Sophia Yin Dog Behavior Issues

https://drsophiayin.com/resources/dog_behavior/

Videos and articles to better understand dog behavior problems or questions

The Jackson Galaxy Project

<http://www.thejacksongalaxyproject.org/Resources/Cat-Behavior-Resources>

Cat Behavior resource library

Local Resources + Trainers

All About Dogs

www.allaboutdogslc.com

Training, daycare, boarding, grooming services

Call: (440) 708-1364

Email: info@allaboutdogslc.com

Four Paws-Ken McCort

kmccort.wixsite.com/four-paws

Help with more complex behavior issues

Call: (330) 658-3647

*Email: kenmccort@neo.rr.com *preferred method of contact

All Dogs go to Kevin

www.dogstokevin.com

Dog Training Services

Call: (330) 474-9170

Email: info@dogstokevin.com

The Behavior Clinic

www.thebehaviorclinic.com

Help with more complex behavior issues

Call: (440) 334-8534

Email: information@thebehaviorclinic.com

Local Resources + Trainers

Cold Nose Companions

<https://www.coldnosecompanions.com>

Dog Training Services

Call: 855-289-3647

Email: info@coldnosecompanions.com

Fortunate Fido

www.fortunatéfido.com

Dog Training Services

Call: (440) 236-9083

Email: fortunatéfido@reception@gmail.com

Chirrup and Chatter/Positively Pawsitive

www.chirrupsandchatter.com

Cat and Dog behavior consulting and training

Call: (440) 525-6577

Email: chirrupsandchatter@gmail.com



Pet Supply Resources

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

Food + Supplies

Rescue Village Pet Food Pantry

www.rescuevillage.org

Pet food pantry available at no cost for those in need of temporary assistance

Call: (440) 338-4819 ext. 13

Email: intake@rescuevillage.org

People Care Pet Pantry

www.peoplecarepetpantry.com

Pet food pantry in Ravenna, OH

Call or text: (330) 389-5116

Email: peoplecarepetpantry@yahoo.com

Geauga County Dog Warden

www.co.geauga.oh.us/Departments/Dog

Offers Pet Food located in Chardon, OH

Call: (440) 279-2180

CC's Cupboard Pet Food Pantry

www.ccscupboard.com

Pet food pantry in Richmond Heights, OH

Call: (216) 509-5760

Email: ccscupboard@yahoo.com

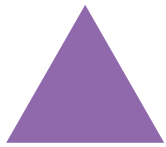
Willowick Pet Food Pantry

www.willowickpetfoodpantry.org

Pet food distribution and other resources

Call: (440) 520-4881

Email: willowickpetfoodpantry@gmail.com



Hospice, Grief Support, and End of Life Services

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

National Resources

Pet Peace of Mind

<https://petpeaceofmind.org/>

This organization helps hospice and seriously ill patients keep their pets (503) 363-0499

The Pet Loss Support Page

<https://www.pet-loss.net/>

Hotlines and resources for dealing with grief

ASPCA -Resources for End of Life Care

<https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/end-life-care>

Coping with end of life decision-making and pet hospice

Best Friends - Pet Loss & Grief Resources

<https://resources.bestfriends.org/article/pet-loss-and-grief-resources>

Links to different resources around the web

The Association of Pet Loss and Bereavement

<https://www.aplb.org/>

Extensive collection of resources

International Association for Animal Hospice and Palliative Care

<https://iaahpc.org/>

A community of pet lovers dedicated to a respectful and dignified final journey for beloved pets

Local Resources

Ohio State Veterinary Medical Center

<https://vet.osu.edu/vmc/companion/our-services/honoring-bond-support-animal-owners/pet-loss-support-hotlines>

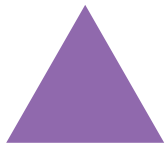
Offers an extensive resource page for Pet Loss Support services including some resources for those experiencing the loss of a companion horse.

DeJohn Pet Services

www.dejohnpetservices.com

Cremation and memorials

Call: (216) 658-9010



Domestic Violence Assistance & Resources

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

National Resources

Red Rover - Domestic Violence Safe Escape Grants

<https://redrover.org/relief/dv-safe-escape-grants/>

Helps provide funding primarily for temporary boarding to allow families to escape domestic violence with their pets.

Sheltering Animals of Abuse Victims

<https://www.saaavprogram.org/>

Offering a network of sheltering and grant-based resources to help victims of violence

Sheltering Animals & Families Together

<https://saftprogram.org/sheltering-animals-and-families-together-2/>

The SAF-T Program® works directly with domestic violence shelters to enable more domestic violence victims to leave abusive households without leaving their pets behind and at risk.

Ahimsa House - National Directory

<https://ahimsahouse.org/get-help/directory/>

A state-by-state list of programs to help house and care of pets while escaping domestic violence situations. Plus links to other programs throughout the U.S.

Red Rover - Safe Place for Pets

<https://safeforpets.org/>

A directory of family violence shelters that have resources for pets

Local Resources

WomenSafe, Inc.

<https://womensafe.org/>

WomenSafe, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit domestic violence shelter and resource center providing service to survivors of domestic violence.

Call: (440) 386-7154

For Immediate Assistance call: 1-888-285-5665

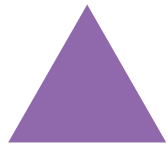
Forbes House

<https://forbeshouse.org>

Forbes House empowers individuals and families to end the cycle of domestic abuse.

PET FRIENDLY.

Call: (440) 357-1018



Rescue Village's Community Guardian Program

The Community Guardian Program is a safety net program offered to pet owners as an alternative to giving up a pet when life's obstacles leave pet owners temporarily unable to care for their pets. Animals accepted into the program are placed into temporary foster homes with trained Rescue Village foster caregivers to provide, love, care, and support to the pet.

Any pet owner is eligible to request assistance from the Community Guardian Program. Research shows that pet owners who face obstacles that would prevent them from caring for their pets — like fleeing an unsafe environment or receiving medical or substance abuse treatment — will postpone their own care to avoid having to give up their pet to a shelter, or having to rehome their pets.

It's been proven that some people facing or experiencing homelessness will choose to stay with their pets and sleep on the streets over going to a homeless shelter because few homeless shelters allow pets. Rehoming a beloved pet is traumatic.

The Community Guardian Program aims to resolve some of these issues by offering a safe haven to people who need temporary help caring for their pets.

If you are in need of assistance from the Community Guardian program please visit this link: <https://www.rescuevillage.org/what-we-do/programs-services/community-guardian-program/> This will take you to a request for assistance form for you to complete.

Program capacity is limited. 911fosterpets.org is another wonderful resource for temporary foster placement of your pet until you are able to continue caring for them.



COMMUNITY GUARDIAN PROGRAM

KEEPING PETS & PEOPLE TOGETHER



Community Cats + Kittens

Community cats, sometimes called free-roaming or feral cats, are cats who have either never had any contact with people or their contact with people has diminished over time. They are different than stray or indoor-outdoor pet cats (cats who are owned and cared for but are either separated from their families or have a home but spend time outside).

For community cats, their home is outdoors and in the community. Typically these cats aren't likely to ever enjoy transitioning into a house and traditional pet lifestyle.

Community cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and then returned to their community through a process called Trap Neuter Return or "TNR". You can often recognize those that have gone through this process by an "ear tip" - a missing tip of either ear. It's a universal sign that this cat has been spayed or neutered.

Why spay and neuter community cats? Without this measure of population control, cats living in the community can have too many litters of kittens, leading to poor quality of life and possible overpopulation issues. TNR helps community cats by relieving them of the stresses of mating and breeding, and protecting them from diseases.

If you find kittens and need support visit this link for found kitten resources and to fill out a kitten surrender form if applicable: <https://www.rescuevillage.org/volunteer/foster/kitten-season/>

What to Do When You Find a Community Cat

If you find a community cat (remember, not a friendly stray --- For info on what to do if you find a friendly stray cat see the "Lost and Found" section of this guide), the first thing to do is look to see if the cat already has an eartip. The most common type of eartip is a flat quarter-inch taken from the top of the left ear, which is painlessly performed surgically while the cat is sedated for spay/neuter. Other TNR programs may use ear notches or use the right ear instead of the left. **Ear-tipped cats have already been sterilized and rabies vaccinated, and can be left where they are found.**

If no ear tip is present, this cat has most likely not been fixed, and you can help by participating in a TNR program. Rescue Village offers a TNR program by appointment. To learn more about the program and how you can sign up to bring cats in for spay/neuter services call (440) 338-4819 ext. 10.

If you have decided you are ready to start trapping and want to get scheduled for a TNR appointment to bring a cat in for spay/neuter, submit a TNR application on our website at www.rescuevillage.org/tnr or give us a call if you are unable to submit an online form.

This service is only available to outdoor community cats who do not have an inside home. Indoor pets, and indoor/outdoor pets do not qualify for this program. See the spay/neuter resources page for programs that offer support for owned pet cats.

Rescue Village also offers a trap rental program for our TNR services where we offer advice and tips on trapping community cats. For more information on borrowing a trap, please call (440) 338-4819 ext. 14.

Other Local Resources

Pet Fix Northeast Ohio

<https://www.petfixnortheastohio.org/>

TNR Services

Call: (216) 732-7040

Email: director@petfixnortheastohio.org

TNR of Warren

www.tnrofwarren.org

TNR Services

Call: (330) 330-8166

Email: tnrofwarren@yahoo.com

Lake Humane Society

www.lakehumane.org

TNR and trap rental programs

*Preference is given to Lake County residents

Call: (440) 951-6122 ext. 116

Email: scheduling@lakehumane.org

One of a Kind Pet Rescue Spay & Neuter Clinic

www.oneofakindpets.com

Located in Akron, OH

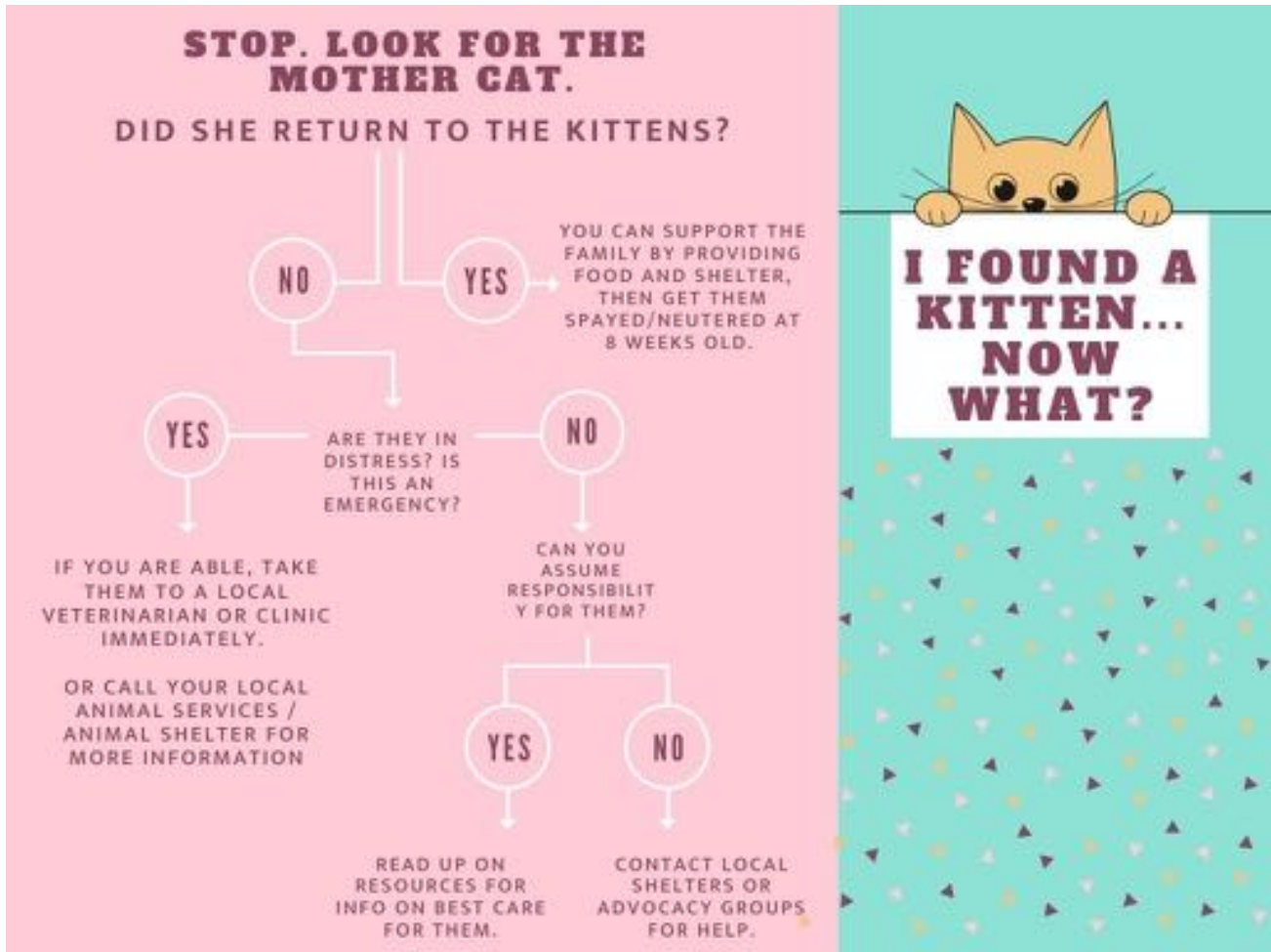
TNR services

Call: (330) 865-6890

Email: scheduling@oneofakindpets.org

What to Do If You Find Kittens

When kittens are very young, their best chances of survival are with their mom. If the kittens are in an unsafe locations, appear distressed or mom hasn't returned after several hours, first make sure they're warm, and then reach out to one of the local resources we've mentioned here.



For More Information:

The Kitten Lady

<http://www.kittenlady.org/>

Tons of resources on kitten care and what to do if you find kittens in the wild.

National Kitten Coalition

<https://kittencoalition.org/>

Resources and education on kitten care and increasing kitten survival rates.

Alley Cat Allies

<https://www.alleycat.org/our-work/feral-friends-network/>

Resources for becoming more involved in community cat management or understanding more about community cats.

ASPCA - Understanding Community Cats

<https://www.aspca.org/animal-homelessness/shelter-intake-and-surrender/closer-look-community-cats>

Best Friends - Community Cat Resources

<https://bestfriends.org/advocacy/protecting-community-cats>

Find a TNR program near you and learn more

Neighborhood Cats

www.neighborhoodcats.org

Resources for becoming more involved in community cat management or understanding more about community cats.



Pet-Friendly Housing

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

National Resources

My Pit Bull is Family

<https://www.mypitbullisfamily.org/housing/>

The nation's largest housing database for nondiscriminatory pet policies

People with Pets

<https://peoplewithpets.com/>

A searchable database for locating pet-friendly housing options.

Petfinder - Steps to Finding Pet Friendly Housing

<https://www.petfinder.com/dogs/living-with-your-dog/finding-pet-friendly-housing/>

Tips and tricks for finding a place that welcomes you and your pet



Military Deployment Options & Assistance

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

National Resources

Dogs on Deployment

<https://www.dogsondeployment.org/>

Provide assistance for pets of those currently serving, including boarding/fostering of pets for those deployed.

911 Foster Pets

<https://911fosterpets.com/>

Emergency fostering and networking to find emergency fosters in your neighborhood.

PACT for Animals

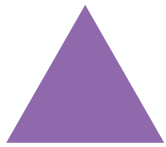
<https://pactforanimals.org/>

Foster homes for pets of deployed service members.

Guardian Angel's For Soldiers' Pets

<https://gafsp.org/>

Network of fosters and other programs to support the pets of deployed soldiers.



Support for Other Species of Pets

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Wildlife Resources

Penitentiary Glen

<http://www.lakemetroparks.com/parks-trails/penitentiary-glen-reservation>
Call: (440) 639-7275
Email: info@lakemetroparks.com

List of Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators

<http://www.lakemetroparks.com/KenticoTemplate/media/LakeMetroparks/2020-2021-Permitted-Wildlife-Rehabilitators.pdf>

List of Ohio Wildlife Officers

<http://www.lakemetroparks.com/KenticoTemplate/media/LakeMetroparks/Ohio-Wildlife-Officers-by-County.pdf>

Farm Animal/Equine Resources

Rescue Village

www.rescuevillage.org
Call: (440) 338-4819 ext. 12
Email: barn@rescuevillage.org

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary

www.happytrailsfarm.org
Call: (440) 296-5914
Email: info@happytrails.org

Rabbit Resources

Ohio House Rabbit Rescue

www.ohiohouserabbitrescue.org/

Information on rabbit care

Call: (614) 263-8557

Email: contact@ohiohouserabbitrescue.org

Reptile Resources

Herps Alive Foundation

<https://herpsalive.weebly.com/>

Dedicated to rehabilitating and caring for
reptiles

Call: (216) 374-1392

Email: herpsalive@earthlink.net

Avian/Bird Resources

Parrot Hope Rescue

www.parrothope.com

A safe haven for parrots and pet birds

Call: (330) 931-7736



Lost & Found Animals

Whether you've lost your pet or have found a stray pet, we have some important tips for you to follow -- and the advice is actually very similar for both scenarios! The best chances for reunification between owners and lost pets happens close to home, so by following this advice for either case we hope to increase the chances that a pet and its family will find one another quickly.

If You've Found a Pet

Often times, one of two instincts kicks in when someone finds a pet -- leave it and hope it finds its way home or pick it up and take it the shelter. But there's a third and critical way to handle this that could mean helping reunite that pet with its family much more successfully.

If possible, we're going to ask that you look for the owners in your area and possibly even foster that animal for the short term. This leaves space in the sheltering system for pets in emergency situations and critical need, but more importantly often means that the lost pet can find its home -- whereas once at the shelter those chances of reunifications start to go down.

We don't encourage this because we don't want to help animals anymore -- quite the opposite! We want to try and get as many pets back into the loving arms of their families and over time animal shelters across the country have realized this happens better in the community. However, we're still here if you need us!



To report a lost or found pet give our Welcome Desk a call at (440) 338-4819 ext. 10 and we will do our best to assist you and offer the support you need.



You can also email a photo and description of a lost or found pet to info@rescuevillage.org

Step One: Walk Around the Neighborhood

Simply by walking around your neighborhood, you may run into someone who is searching for their pet. Or, you may pass other neighbors or community members (delivery drivers, postal workers, landscapers, pool technicians, etc often know the pets in the homes on your street!) who know the pet and can help identify where they live. In some cases, the lost pet may even lead you back to their home.

Step Two: Check for a Microchip

A microchip is small (grain of rice-sized) tag implanted in the pet's skin (typically between the shoulder blades) that links to the owner's information when scanned with a special microchip scanner. Call local vet offices or contact the shelter to see if they can scan the pet for one! Sometimes even local fire departments or other community services have microchip scanners as well.

Step Three: Notify Local Shelters

Contact your county's local humane society and animal control division to notify of a lost or found pet. If you are in Geauga County, you can report lost and found pets to both Rescue Village and the Geauga County Dog Warden. The Geauga County Dog Warden facility can be reached by phone at 440-285-2222.

Step Four: Get the Word Out

Social media may be a way to capture attention of not just the owner but friends, family members or community members who may recognize the pet. Be sure to post a photo or two (or even a video clip) with the information about where the pet was found, anything notable about their collar or markings, as well as your contact information and where the pet is currently being housed.

Pages such as Rescue Village's Lost & Found Facebook page are good resources to use to help get the word out on social media. Most towns and counties have their own version of a lost and found pets page on Facebook. Other social platforms like your local, Nextdoor are often helpful too!

You can also make and distribute flyers around the community. Make sure the photo is large and easily seen, include where he/she was found, and basic contact information for yourself. Start by posting these around your neighborhood, then begin to branch out to nearby locations, with a special focus on essential needs -- gas stations, grocery stores, bodegas or convenience stores, parks, community centers, churches / synagogues / houses of worship.

Step Five: Upload the Pet to Petco Love Lost website

Petco Love Lost is a website used to reunite pets with owners. Click on "Found Pet" on their website and add a photo of the found animal along with details about where he/she was found. The website and more information is available at this link: <https://lost.petcolove.org/> You can also use this platform to share of photo of your lost pet in case someone in your area finds them.



If You've Lost a Pet

Similar to the process for finding a pet, we're going to instruct you to follow a few key steps to try and find your pet faster.

- **Immediately do a search of the neighborhood** and surrounding areas to see if you can locate or spot the pet. If the pet seems to be running away every time you get close, try to go against your instincts and rather than chase, see if you can make a game of you running in the opposite direction. Sometimes this can cause the pet (especially dogs) to decide to engage and chase you instead!

As you search, alert neighbors or community members you encounter so they can keep an eye out for the missing pet.

- **Call local shelters, friends, and family** who can help or get the word out, and pitch in to find the missing pet. Even after the initial few hours, remember to check in with the shelter daily.
- **Take to social media** to mobilize your community of friends and followers. Post to lost and found groups and other community-related groups such as:
 - Rescue Village Lost & Found Pets page on Facebook
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/441040253303031>
- **Use traditional methods of getting attention** like flyering or continuing to do walk-thrus of the neighborhood with information. Post these in your neighborhood and then in key community locations, working outward from your home in the most-likely pattern. Don't give up and don't lose hope!

Preventative Measures

There are a few things you can do to both prevent your pet from becoming lost as well as being prepared if that should happen. Let's dive in:

- **Have your pet wear a collar and up-to-date tags at all times.** Even if microchipped this is the fastest way for them to get home when found.
- **Get your pet microchipped.** Pet Vet, operated by VIP Pet Care offers a microchip service inside select Tractor Supply & Company stores. These locations include Chardon and Middlefield. Call 1-800-427-7973 or visit <https://petvet.vippetcare.com> to find a location near you and read more about the services offered.
- If your pet is already microchipped, check to make sure it's properly registered and your contact information is up to date. Visit: <https://www.foundanimals.org/microchip-registry/owners/>
- **Upload their photo to Finding Rover's database** in the event they are lost. www.findingrover.com
- **Keep them safe when you're not home** by bringing them inside, using a crate, or whatever method of containment works best for you and the pet.
- **Keep them safe when out and about** by leashing dogs when out on walks, or by simply leaving pets home if the occasion calls for it.

Thank you!

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