



P.O. Box 1135, Midland, MI 48641
989-492-0042
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www.sosanimalrescue.org

SOS Animal Rescue Newsletter • Volume 23, Issue 1 • March 15, 2023

A Year in Review

What your donations made happen in 2022:

- 155 foster pets placed via our foster program
- 495 spay/neuter surgeries for pets in low income families
- 611 animals living with 218 families helped with pet food
- Shelterhouse donation for their pet program
- 21 pets were helped by a grant from the Midland Area Community Foundation

Our dedicated volunteers use your donations to make a difference to help the animals. Thank you for your support.

Joann Taylor
 SOS Animal Rescue President

SOS EVENTS

May 2

Give Local Midland
online giving via
 Midland Community Foundation

May 2-5

Rummage Sale
 May 2,3 Drop-Off
 May 4-5 Sale
 Midland Curling Center
 2009 S. Jefferson Ave.,
 Midland

June 22

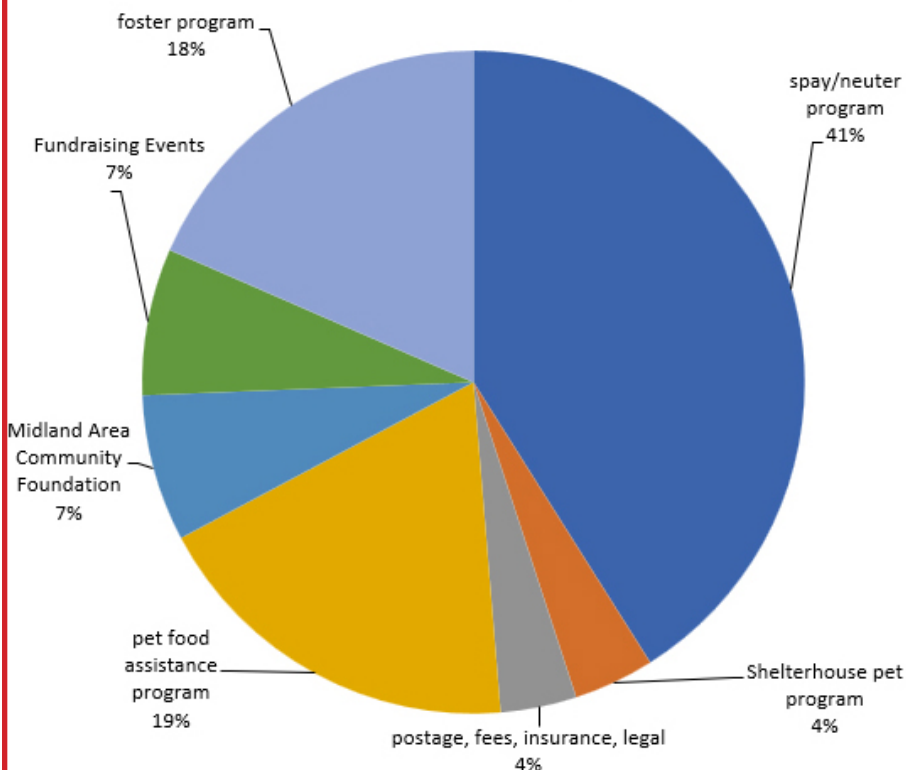
6:00 p.m.
 Board Meeting
 Conference Call
email for details

August 19

8:00-8:45 a.m. Sign-Up
 9:00 a.m. Race
 Dirty Dog Trail Run
 & Silent Auction

*Visit petfinder.com to find
 pets available for adoption.*

2022 Spending by Program



THANK YOU!

Lori Ackerman
Mary Bain
Mike Bartos
Jack Berdasco
Susan Berghoff
Ava Bishop
Kevin Budd and Sandy Cripps
Eleanor Butcher
Paul and Lily Cheng
Chris Erskine
Sharon Forsberg
Marlene Juhasz
Catherine Konn
Chris and David Landon
Diane Legner
Michelle Lim
Elizabeth Marshall
Barbara McGregor
Lynette Miller
Grace Morris
Stephanie Nearman
John, Julie, and J.R. Nosal
Brian Nylander
Chris and Nancy Peeler
Teresa Pennington
Leslie Rector
Sali Reynolds
Jeffrey Rogers
Tammy Ross
Kathleen Russell
Madeline Sasse
Judith Scheuffele
Terry Shell
Jeffrey Smith
Hitoshi Takahashi
Pia Tucker
Tera Weakman
Julie Weisenerger
Yoshie Ziarno

Marianne Bird
in memory of her dog Ginger

Michael and Diana Dalton in memory
of special cats Randi, Hanover, and
James T.

In memory of Carol Gillespie:
Janet Beman
Dawn and William Cochran
James and Carol DeLong
James and Dawn Donovan
Lisa Garber
Tamara and Gary Graham
Steven Hansen
Pat and Richard Humburg
Mike and Sharon Mikals
Don Raetz
Ed and Ruth Woollard
Randall and Janet Wyse

Platinum Sponsors

All About Animals
M-20 Animal Hospital
Northern Animal Clinic
Park Place Homes
Precious Cat
River Rock Animal Hospital
Superior Title and Settlement
Surrey Veterinary Clinic
Target
Vetmed of Midland

Gold Sponsors

Highway 107.7 radio
leuter Insurance Group –
Auto Owners Insurance
Larkin Food Center
Legacy Wealth Management –
Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.
Meijer
Member's First Credit Union
Paula's Pet Sitting
Pet Pals
PetSmart
Sunny 97.7 1490 WMPX

Silver Sponsors

Animal Medical Center
Beauchamp's Heating and Cooling LLC
Bushey's Automotive
DeFi Creations
Eastman Party Store
The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe
Soldan's Pet Supplies
Spherion
Wildfire Credit Union

Bronze Sponsors

Bone and Bailey Insurance
Family Fare
Garber Chevrolet
Hugs for Homeless Animals
Kroger
Lowe's
Max's Place
Midland Amateur Radio Club
Midland Animal Clinic
Muddy Pups
Nature's Gift Organic Market
Poochie's Pit Stop
Quilts for Cages
Runners Athletic Company
Shay Water Company
Shine
Tractor Supply Company
Zach's Dog Groomery

Thank you to everyone who donated
to our sharing tree. Special thanks to
Soldan's Pet Supplies In Midland for
hosting the tree.



THANK YOU!



Support us with your Kroger purchases!

Community Rewards

Number:

HN771

In 2023 Kroger donated \$25 for a total of \$1900 to date!

Facebook Birthday Fundraisers:

For Kasper Patterson
Marie Fox
Tia Hahn
Mike Taylor

For Merlin Linux
Xen Gryphon
Merlin Linux

Canister Hosts

Auto Technicians
Bicycle HQ
Cphoon's Elevator
Countryside Animal Health Center
The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe
Howl-A-Day
Larkin Food Center
Lodge Party Store
M-20 Animal Hospital
Max's Place
Midland Liquor
Muddy Pups
Nature's Niche
Northern Animal Clinic
Ray's Bike Shop on Eastman
Soldan's Pet Supplies
Woodland Pet Resorts



Thank you to DeFiCreations for the fabulous fundraiser. (Check out her offerings on Facebook.)



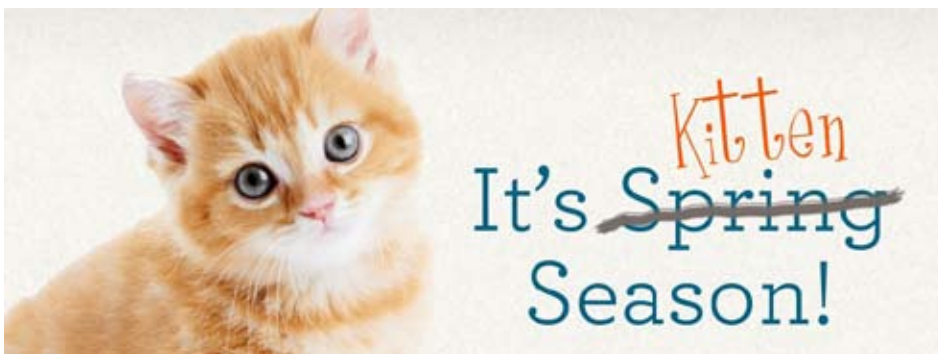
iGive.com™

Amazon Smile has been a great program for us over the years, raising \$1,700 through shopping online. For those interested, iGive.com is an option to replace Amazon Smile. A portion of your purchases is donated to the charity of your choice. Check it out, sign up, and continue donating through shopping.



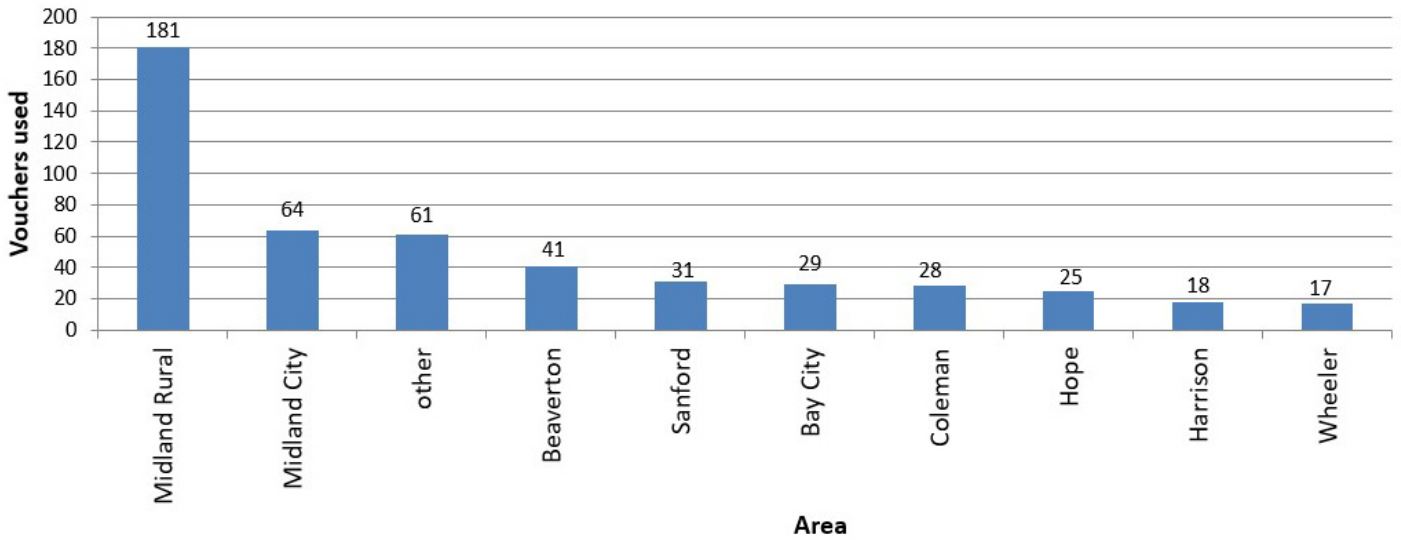
Shelterhouse Welcomes Clients with Pets

Shelterhouse is the only domestic violence/sexual assault shelter in Michigan that welcomes clients and pets to share the same living space. We are fortunate to have the support of great community partners like SOS Animal Rescue. Shelterhouse clients have felt a sense of relief knowing that when they come into shelter with their pet, part of their family, that the animal is cared for as well. Through the generosity of SOS Animal Rescue, we are able to provide shelter clients with a vet appointment to have the pet checked out and updated on all shots. It is important to the clients that the pet be healthy and safe. Our clients share what a relief it is for them when they call seeking shelter and we ask them if they will be bringing their pet with them – this makes them feel less anxiety. Clients have shared with us how welcoming it is to enter a space set up for their dog. This year we provided our clients' pets with toys to help them feel more comfortable. These were toys generously donated by SOS Animal Rescue.



Kitten season is when cats (both outdoors and indoors) breed and give birth. During kitten time, many cats are pregnant and many kittens are born. This period often lasts from March, the start of summertime, to October, the end of autumn. If you need help fixing your female cats, please fill out an application at our website www.sosanimalrescue.org. Let's stop the breeding before it starts.

Number of Spay/Neuter Vouchers used by Area in 2022



We had some funding provided to help in Bay, Gladwin, and Clare Counties in 2022. This was a special grant that is not expected to be available in 2023.

Give where you live!

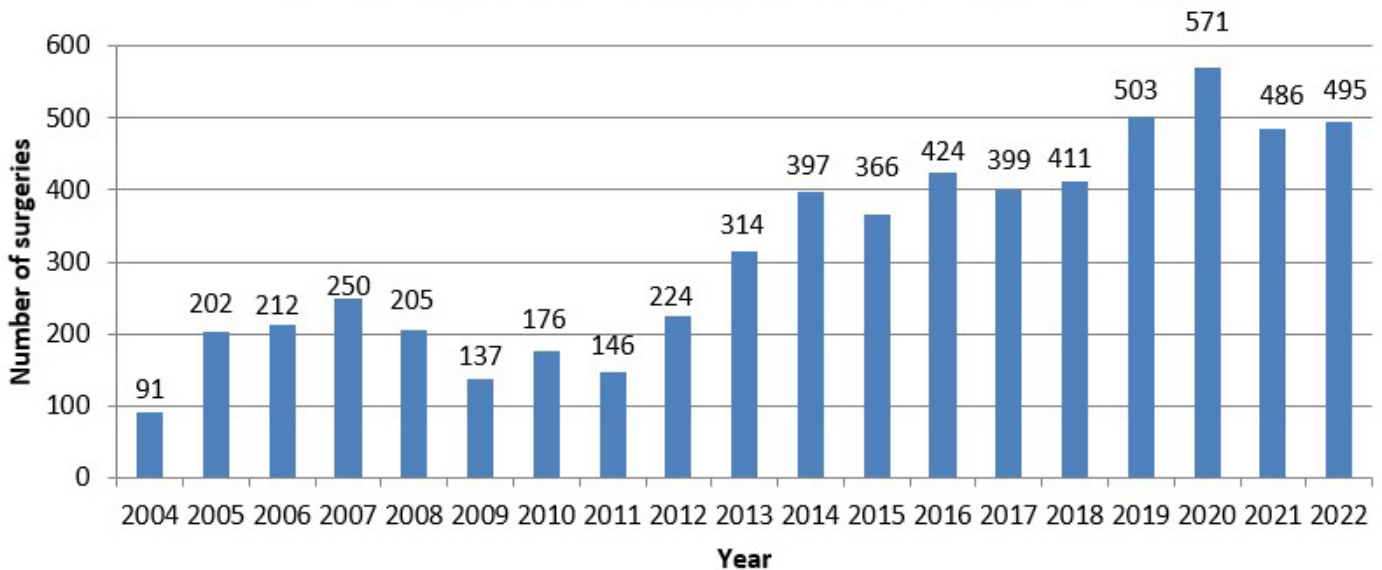
**Tuesday,
May 2**
24 hours
50 non-profits



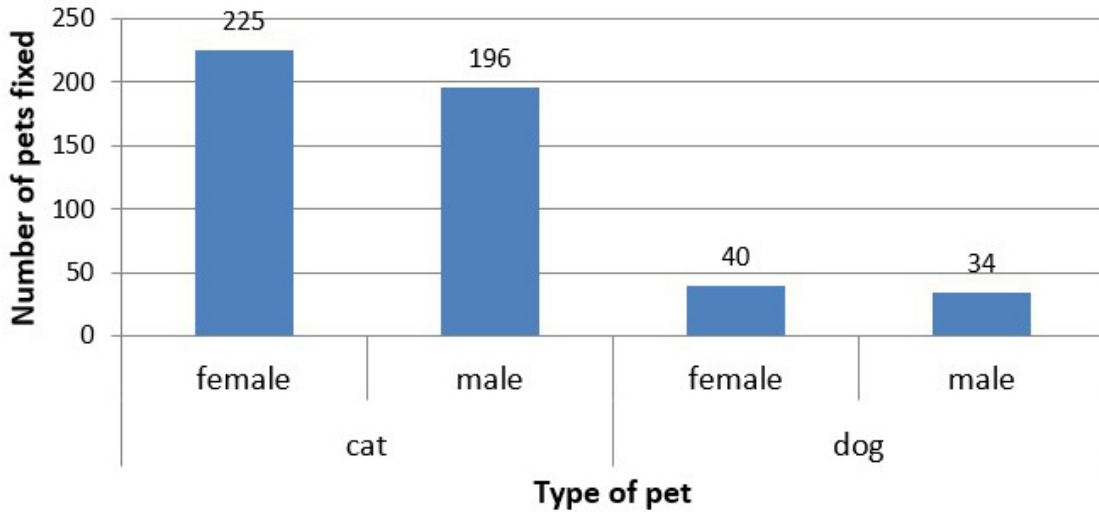
Examples of pets your donations helped:

- Dog with broken leg
- Two cats with sores on body
- Dog with prolapsed vagina needing surgery
- Dog with pyometra infection needing surgery
- Cats needing flea meds

Number of pets spayed/neutered by year



Pets fixed by Spay/neuter assistance program in 2022

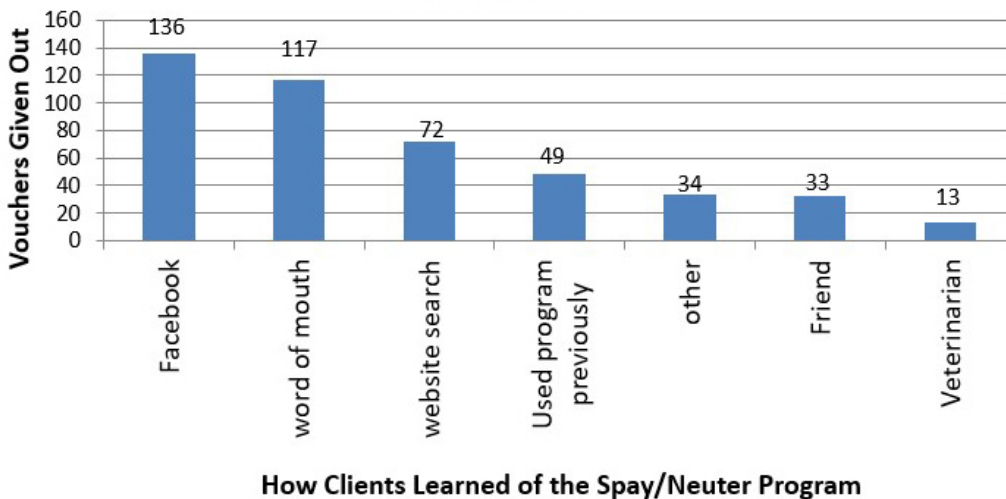


Spay/Neuter Statistics

Thanks to your donations and support, we are able to provide more help each year. If each spay/neuter surgery prevents two litters of unwanted puppies or kittens from being born the program has saved over 40,000 from a life of hunger, cruelty, and disease.

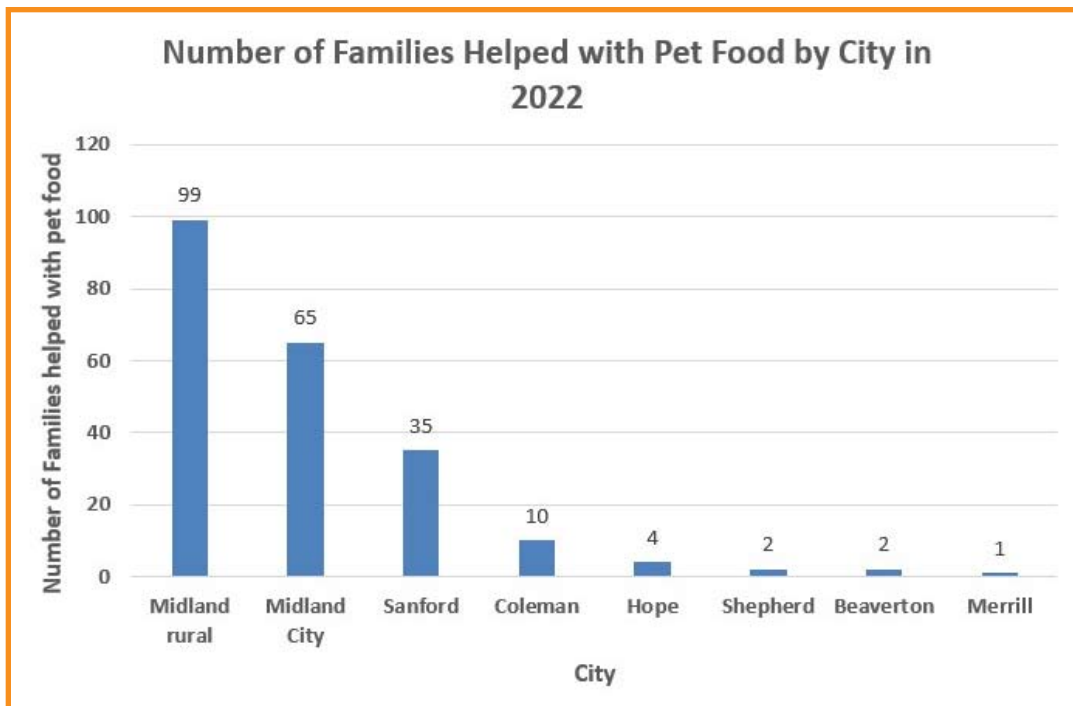
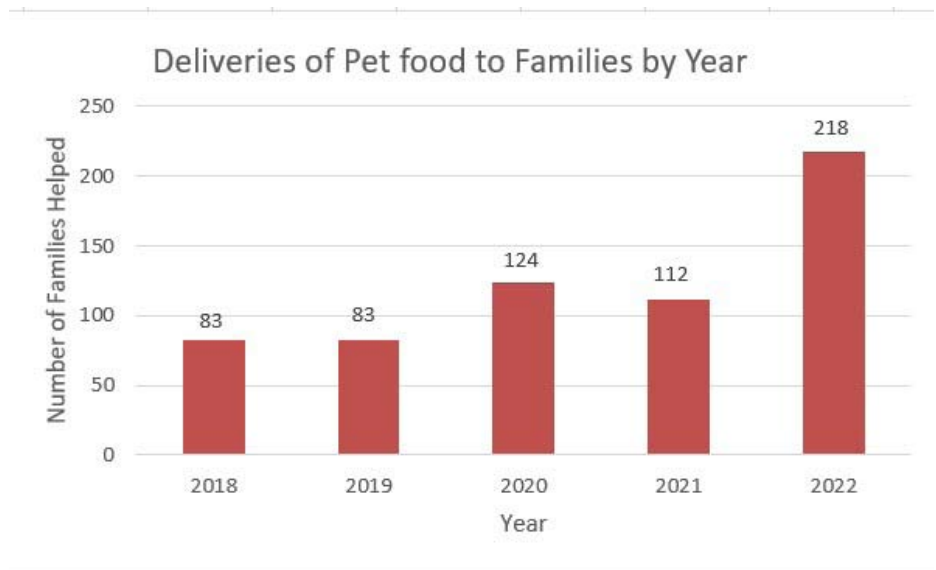
Spay/Neuter	thru 2021	2022	Total
Female Cats	2330	225	2555
Male Cats	1907	196	2103
Female Dogs	704	40	744
Male Dogs	570	34	604
Total	5511	495	6006

How clients learned about our spay/neuter program in 2022



Delivery Volunteer Needed

Requests for pet food assistance doubled in 2022 and have increased even more in 2023. We are looking for a volunteer to deliver pet food to families in need inside the Midland city limits. Clients submit applications for pet food assistance and if approved, food is delivered. The volunteer would pick up food from our storage location and deliver to the client. If this sounds like something you are interested in, drop us a note at info@sosar.org.



Pet Food Assistance Program

	Thru 2022	2023	Total
Families Helped	1329	37	1366
Dogs	1602	31	1633
Cats	2486	47	2533
Other Animals	38	3	41
Pounds Dog Food Delivered	49,131	870	50,001
Pounds Cat Food Delivered	25,951	529	26,480

YOUR DONATIONS HELP THESE ANIMALS RECEIVE MEDICAL CARE

Gracie - mats in her fur that needed to be shaved
Orville and Oliver - severe upper respiratory infection
Vanderbilt - fiv-positive
Victoria - upper respiratory infection and whipworms, was returned to owner after given a clean bill of health



Victoria

RETURNED HOME

ADOPTED!

Vanderbilt



ADOPTED!

Orville & Oliver



Gracie

ADOPTED!





ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE!

All proceeds benefit the animals!

Thursday, May 4
9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Friday, May 5
9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Midland Curling Center
2009 South Jefferson Street, Midland

DONATION DROP-OFF
Tuesday, May 2 • 1–7 p.m. & Wednesday, May 3 • 12–7 p.m.
We can also store items. Call us!
No adult clothing please. All donations are tax deductible.

LEFTOVERS
Friday, May 5 • 1:00–2:00 p.m. Items free to non-profits.





Meet Scrappy

Scrappy is a two-year-old, very sweet little girl. She's quiet in the daytime as she likes to snuggle in her little hut or lay in the sun. She comes out in the evening and wants to sleep in your lap. She's not super active but does like to use her paws to get your attention. Scrappy came to us after her owner passed away. She's completely vetted and is ready to find a new home. She doesn't do well out in public so taking her to Petsmart was very stressful for her. Hopefully someone will see her on social media and give her a great place to call home. If you have a place in your home and heart for Scrappy, drop us an email at info@sosar.org.

Ready for a Place to Call Home

Meet Emmie

Emmie has been with us for ten months. She came in because she was not using the litter box. After a lot of testing, it was determined she had bladder stones. That resulted in surgery to remove them. Since then, Emmie is doing great. She went from a cat that spent a lot of time in the litter box and being grumpy to a cat that now plays with toys, likes to be petted, and loves to lay in the sun. Emmie will do best in a quieter home where she is an only cat. She also needs to be on special food so no more bladder stones form. Emmie is about five years old and deserves a chance to enjoy the rest of her life. If you are interested in adopting Emmie, drop us a note at info@sosar.org.





Barn Cats in Need of Barn Homes

We have three male and three female cats that cannot go back to where they came from, and they are looking for barn homes. They are fixed and dewormed, have rabies vaccine and distemper vaccine, and have a revolution for flea prevention. They range in age from eight months to four years. Let us know if you can give a couple of barn cats a home. We asked that you provide food, water, and shelter in exchange for critter control.



Most Common Causes of Seizures in Dogs

Finding the cause of sudden seizures in previously healthy dogs may require a neurology or internal medicine work-up, but the ASPCA notes that often the problem can be traced to a toxin exposure.

Before an MRI recommendation, refer to this chart to see if the pet has potential exposure to one of the items. Be mindful that many of the medications commonly used in veterinary medicine are on this list because they cause concern in overdose situations or when given via an incorrect route.

Medications

Fluorouracil (5-FU) cream, Ivermectin, Fluoroquinolone antibiotics, Isoniazid, Lamotrigine, Ibuprofen, Metronidazole, Phenylbutazone, Amphetamines, Vilazodone, Diphenhydramine, Phenylpropanolamine, Procaine Penicillin G, 5-hydroxytryptophan (5-HTP), Any medications with the potential to cause hypoglycemia (such as sulfonylureas).

Plants

Mushrooms, Brunfelsia, Sago palm

Food

Xylitol, Caffeine, Ethanol, Dark chocolate

Rodenticides/Insecticides

Metaldehyde, Bifenthrin, Strychnine, Zinc phosphide, 4-Aminopyridine

Illicit Drugs

Cocaine, Amphetamines, Cannabis, Synthetic cannabinoids

Miscellaneous

Ethylene glycol, Mycotoxins, Bee sting envenomation, Homemade play dough or salt dough

Reprinted from www.aspcapro.org.

How to Help a Fearful Cat in a New Home

How can I tell if my cat is fearful?

A cat's behavior can tell you a lot about their emotions. In general, a cat who feels happy and safe will spend time out in the open. They will walk with their tail up and ears forward or slightly to the side. They will explore and interact with their environment in a confident manner. When in a new place, even a confident cat may hide. In contrast, a cat who is feeling fearful may exhibit any of the following behaviors:

- cowering or walking with their body low to the ground
- fleeing in response to noises or when approached
- hissing, swatting, or trying to bite if handled
- decreased appetite*
- urinating or defecating outside of the litter box*
- appearing "shut down" or pretending to be asleep*

*Lack of appetite, inappropriate elimination, lethargy, or any sudden change in a cat's behavior could also be an indication of an underlying medical condition. If you notice any of these, contact your veterinarian right away.

Why is my cat fearful?

From an evolutionary standpoint, fear is very helpful for avoiding danger. All animals experience fear at various points throughout their life. For cats, fear is often caused by new environments, traveling in a carrier, loud or unfamiliar noises, or unfamiliar sights, smells, or animals.

Most cats will experience some level of fear when first arriving in a new home. Think about when you move to a new home – it takes some time to get used to a novel space and a new routine. Cats similarly take time to get used to a new place and many become confident with time.

Some cats have more sensitive or fearful personalities, either due to negative experiences in the past, genetic traits, lack of exposure to new experiences as a kitten, or a combination of these factors. They tend to take a little longer (weeks versus days) to settle into a new home. These cats may always be a bit timid in certain situations, but, given time, they often blossom in a stable home environment with familiar people.

How can I help my cat feel less fearful?

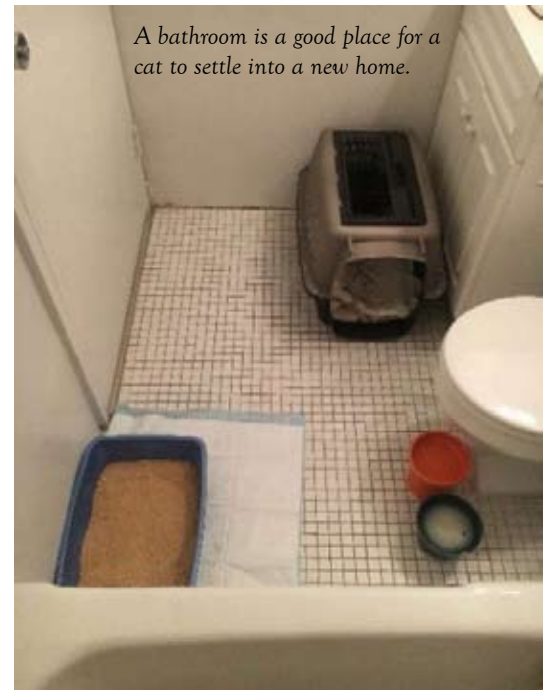
Help them feel cozy and secure. When first getting to your home, keep your cat confined in a quiet, low-traffic area such as a bathroom or small bedroom. This will reduce their exposure to things that might frighten them. Make sure to cat-proof by blocking off any small spaces where the cat

might try to hide but do provide several appropriate hiding spots such as cardboard boxes, a cat carrier with the door propped open, or a cat tree. Avoid physically removing a fearful cat from where they are hiding unless necessary. Be sure your cat has access to comfy bedding, toys, food, water, a scratcher, and a litter box. Once the cat is moving around this space confidently, you can begin to slowly introduce them to the rest of your home.

Practice a "considerate approach." A considerate approach means that you are approaching the cat in a way that considers the cat's point of view. Avoid picking up, leaning over, or reaching for the cat as these can be perceived as threatening. Instead, sit or kneel about one to two feet away from them, facing to the side. Avoid staring directly at the cat, instead, look at them for a second or two then blink slowly and look away for a moment. Offer some tasty treats by either rolling them toward the cat or placing them gently near them. Try engaging them by waving a wand toy low to the ground. Keep your movements slow, your voice low, and your hand below the cat's eye level.

Let them choose. Allowing your cat to interact with you on their own terms will help them learn to trust you. Pay attention to the cat's body language and stop interacting with them if they appear stressed. In fact, sometimes just acting like you are not paying them any mind at all can go a long way in letting a fearful cat know you mean no harm. Fearful cats tend to warm up to their main caretaker, but likely will remain fearful of visitors. It is important that you do not force your cat to interact with any visitors if they are frightened of them, or they may become even more scared. Instead, have them ignore your cat. If your cat comes out of hiding, visitors should gently toss treats but not attempt to interact further.

Reprinted from www.aspcapro.org.





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Dirty Dog Run
Saturday, August 19, 2023
Midland City Forest

Officers

Joann Taylor, President
Shelley Park, Vice President
Karla Oldenburg, Treasurer

Mission Statement

SOS Animal Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to reduce the number of unwanted pets in the Midland area through placement, public education, spay/neuter assistance programs, and support for the efforts of local animal welfare groups.

Directors

Isabella Jansen

Newsletter Editor

Sheryl Billmeier Hnizda

THANKS TO OUR PLATINUM & GOLD SPONSORS!



Surrey Veterinary Clinic

Midland VetMED

