



Media Release

Last update: October 29, 2008

Washington County, Oregon



Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter

For Immediate Release

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Washington County Animal Services Provides Crucial Pet Services

Reuniting lost dogs and cats with owners, pet sterilization, adoptions, and humane pet euthanasia

Hillsboro, Oregon -- Washington County Animal Services urges owners to turn to the Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter for many types of pet services and assistance.

"In light of the case of a dog named Molly found injured and buried up to her neck in Forest Grove, we want to make sure the public knows that our agency provides many vital services to animals and their owners, including pet euthanasia" says Jeannette Nachbar, supervisor. In addition to caring for about 7,000 dogs and cats that are brought to the organization every year, the shelter staff performs all of the critical services traditionally available from animal shelters. These include reuniting lost dogs and cats with owners, pet sterilization, adoptions, as well as humane pet euthanasia.

"The decision to euthanize a pet is never easy. Our staff helps customers everyday through this difficult time," Nachbar adds.

Most animal protection organizations acknowledge that euthanasia is an appropriate and humane means of ending the suffering of an animal. Animal Services staff receives accredited training and certification to use the most professional, humane, and safest euthanasia method of injecting sodium-pentobarbital.

Animal Services does not condone the practice of hitting an animal in order to cause its death.

In today's turbulent economy, there are options for pet owners who are short on cash. "If a customer comes to the shelter and believes he can't pay for a basic service, we have billing and payment plans. Our staff also reviews these types of situations on a case-by-case basis and can offer alternative solutions," Nachbar says. In addition, the shelter maintains information on area resources on low-cost pet sterilization, low-cost pet vaccine clinics, and emergency pet food banks.

For more information on services for animals, visit www.co.washington.or.us/pets or stop by and talk to an animal care expert at the Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter, 1901 SE 24th Avenue, Hillsboro.

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Washington County & Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter provides care and protection for over 7,000 homeless, unwanted, abandoned and abused or neglected dogs and cats each year. We serve an estimated 110,000 dogs and 120,000 cats and their owners in Washington County, an area that encompasses 727 square miles and a human population of about 505,000. Adoption, lost and found, emergency veterinary rescue services, cruelty investigations, humane and safety education, and pet identification are just a few of our services. All donations are tax deductible.

**Spay or neuter your pet for a kinder future.
If your pet is already sterilized, consider sponsoring a friend's or neighbor's pet.**

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