

Four Paws



Newsletter of the Auburn Valley Humane Society

FALL 2014

Welcome

- Executive Director's Desk..... 2
- What's Up Doc? 3
- Dig This 3
- Lookin' for Luv 4
- Furr Report 4
- Support Events 5
- Lend a Paw 5
- Operating Statistics 7
- Ways to Help 8

Our Mission

The Auburn Valley Humane Society is dedicated to providing shelter, quality care and love for all the lost, mistreated and abandoned animals in Auburn. AVHS utilizes all available resources to ensure each animal is placed into a loving and forever home and promotes responsible pet ownership through education and outreach.



SADIE'S life began with AVHS due to the owner's tragic death. After being with AVHS for five months, Sadie has found someone to love her. Go to page 4 for more details.

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Four Paws

Published by the
Auburn Valley Humane Society

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Julie Dormstad, Asst. Thrift Store Mgr

Lizz Miller, Customer Service Rep

Shelter

4910 A St SE, Auburn, WA 98092

253-249-7849 FAX: 253-929-8612

www.AuburnValleyHS.org

AVHS Federal Tax ID # 45-0638467

Current Hours of Operation:

Sunday	12-4 pm
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	10 am-4 pm
Wednesday	12-6 pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	10 am-4 pm
Saturday	12-6 pm



Executive Director's Desk: *by Phil Morgan*

Auburn Valley Humane Society Looking forward to our future...



...there are few humans who have treated me as well as my dog...

The fall season is upon us. Once again summer seems to have past us by. This is a special time of year when the temperatures lower, the days get shorter and the need for companionship may be just what one needs for the long winter months ahead.

Now is the perfect time to find that special friend to curl up next to on those cold winter evenings. Taking care of a dog can be a great way to increase happiness and self-confidence. Pets are 100% faithful and will be by your side through the good and bad times. Everybody deals

with stress, anxieties and life problems, but a dog in your life may assist in easing those difficult times. Unconditional love and acceptance is a guarantee from a pet, which is not something we receive continually from people in our lives. I can honestly say over the years, there are few humans in this world who have treated me as well as my dog.

By adopting a dog, you will be enhancing your life as well as the dog's life. Adopting a dog is beneficial to your health and well-being, and may be one of the best things that you do in your life.

When visiting our shelter, the staff is readily available to assist with questions about adoptable animals. They will work closely with interested individuals

and families to find the right companion to fit your lifestyle. All adoptable animals at AVHS have been spayed/neutered, are current on shots and have a microchip implanted for permanent identification.

Stop by the shelter and come and find your next best friend. It is a decision I feel you won't regret!

Phil Morgan
Executive Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the staff and all the furry four footed friends in our care, we would like to thank you for supporting our mission and your Humane Society!



New Shelter Hours in 2015

Sunday	12 pm - 4 pm
Monday	10 am - 6 pm
Tuesday	10 am - 6 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 6 pm
Thursday	10 am - 6 pm
Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	12 pm - 6 pm

UPCOMING CHANGES in 2015

Due to the success of the AVHS Thrift Store & More, we will be able to expand the AVHS Shelter hours in January of the new year.

Adding additional revenue allows us to launch three new programs in January. The first is to add a Humane Education Program. The second will take over the Senior Pet Food Bank from the city. The third is to

launch our Pets of Domestic Violence Program, which will allow us to partner with local women's shelters to house pets of DV families while they get the help they need. The pets will be cared for at the shelter until the family attains permanent housing and is able to reclaim their pet.

Lastly, additional funds will be used to expand our Behavioral/Rescue Program. This will allow us to partner to conduct more extensive behavior testing with the shelter animals and allow us to partner with shelters and rescue groups to help animals in risk of euthanasia in other shelters.

Credits: Front cover Winterfeld

Photography - Jilian Siemandel

Other photos throughout newsletter

Alisha and Holland McGraw

SomeLikeltShotPhotography.com



Join us at
Mike Scarff's Subaru dealership,
3025 Auburn Way N
on
Sat. Nov 22 - 12 - 4pm
"Share the Love"
Adoption Event.
Come see the adoptable dogs and cats!



Follow us on Facebook & YouTube

What's Up Doc?

Holiday Pets as Gifts

by Dr. Emily D. Purvis, DVM

We at the Auburn Valley Humane Society are all about finding forever homes for pets...and there's nothing cuter than thinking about a fuzzy kitten or puppy popping out of a box with a big bow for the holidays. But, if you're thinking of gifting a pet for the holidays, we will be the first to tell you to think twice.

While gifting a pet creates an extremely warm and fuzzy picture, the reality is it's one of the worst times. Unfortunately, many pets end up back in the shelter just a few short months later for various reasons that affect no one more than the poor little critter looking for her forever home.

Some important points to consider when adopting a pet:

Is the person or family ready for a pet? Maybe it seems silly, but just because we want a pet or think someone should have a pet doesn't mean they are ready for a pet. Make sure that you have a plan. Do you have a plan in place to make a 10 year or more commitment to a new furry companion? Do you have time and resources to invest in care and training for a new animal for better or worse?

What about the kids? Many parents would like to impress their kids with a new pet. Kids should never be responsible for the care of an animal. They can play a role and it can be an excellent way to teach responsibility, but ultimately it falls on the adult to make medical decisions, implement training and ensure the pet receives proper care.

If you're adopting for your family, many shelters require the entire group is there to meet the pet. What if a dog doesn't like one of the family members? What if one of the family members is allergic to the cat? Besides, what a great family experience to come pick the pet out together?

What's your Holiday Season like? Do you have oodles of extra time? Do sit around and suffer extreme boredom? For the majority of people the holidays are filled with crazy busy travel and family schedules.

Your relationship with your pet starts the instant you take her home. Is your house pet-proof and free of potential hazards? What if the dog eats the wrapping paper or the cat climbs the Christmas tree? Do you have all the necessary supplies? Puppies require immediate training; mature dogs need time to acclimate. Even a cat or kitten will require extra attention. Take these factors into account when considering the gift of a pet.



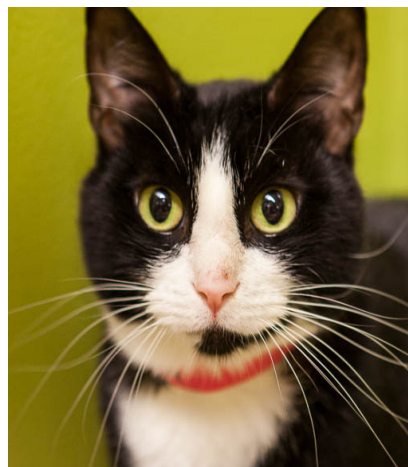
DIG THIS Safety Tips for the Holiday Season

1. The Christmas Tree. Make sure Fluffy and Fido are safe from falling trees or flailing ornaments. Ms. Fluffy kitty won't think twice about scaling your ornamental wonder, tangling in the tinsel and eating the electrical. Mr. Fido may hike a leg and mark the beautiful piece of the outdoors you brought in for him. Why not? That's what you say to do outside, right? Make sure to securely anchor your tree, don't place lights and ornaments on lower branches and take time to acclimate your furry friends to the wonders of the holiday.

2. Feasting is Meant for People NOT Furry Friends. You probably know that chocolate and xylitol (artificial sweetener) can be toxic for pets. But did you also know that poinsettias, lilies, onions, garlic and grapes are toxic? Even a well-intentioned meal of turkey leftovers can send your pet careening to the ER with intestinal upset. Keep an extra close eye on unattended plates and an extra strong lid on the garbage can this season. Put meds away and no unintentional doggie cocktails for the day.

3. A Room of Their Own. Sometimes it's just too much to watch the pets and maintain that gracious

hostess status. Days or weeks before your guests start arriving, make a safe haven for your critter. Put their favorite bed, toys, food & water in a separate room. Get them used to staying in there. When your guests arrive, put the pets away until the excitement is winding down. Think you're being mean? Nope, just plain smart and safe, keeping the best interest and well-being of your pet in mind.

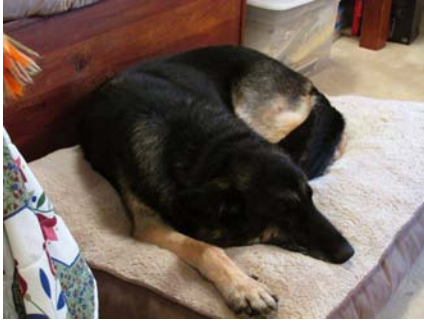


4. New Year's Noise. The cacophony of New Year's Eve can send even the mellowest pets into an emotional melt down. Make sure that doors are locked and all pets are safely inside. Try tuning out the fireworks with soothing radio. If your pets are very sensitive, consider contacting your vet for a mild sedative to ease the stress of the events.

Sobe came in as a stray cat and left as a star.

LOOKING FOR LUV

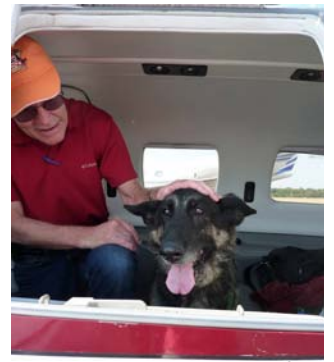
Happiness found in a new home...



Sadie Grace has a Facebook page for all her fans to follow at: www.facebook.com/pages/Sadie-Grace/284456618407223

Sadie is a sweet gentle 9 year old German Shepherd that was much loved at the AVHS shelter. She was surrendered to us as her owner had passed away and . She was marked as available for adoption but a diagnosis of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) made her difficult to place.

Months later she was diagnosed with a mammary cancer which had a high likelihood of spreading through the blood. Sadie had no idea and was the same loving dog. It was time for a hospice foster home to care for Sadie for the remainder of her life. Through the hard work of several dedicated volunteers, Sadie's story was networked and AVHS was able to find a home in San Francisco with a retired couple. Through the Wings of Rescue, Sadie took a private plane to her new home!



Thanks to the Wings of Rescue for their assistance in flying Sadie to her new home in San Francisco

From her proud new parents:

We've had Sadie for over four weeks now. She is settling in very well becoming ever more loving and cuddly. Although she is still my constant companion, she does follow Greg around the house. Greg has poor health including diastolic heart failure as well as strokes and seizures. He feels Sadie can now "sense" when he is having problems. She follows him around and leans on him if he is having "issues" as the young folks would say. –Jeanne, proud mama

During her 5 months at the shelter, the cost of Sadie's medical, food and sheltering was approximately \$4,200. Skip that one cup of coffee a day and donate it to AVHS for special medical needs. Donations made on a recurring monthly basis become money we can count on! AVHS will continue to provide for the needs of the animals in our care! We need your support!

Furr Report

Understanding FELV or Feline Leukemia Virus

At Auburn Valley Humane Society, we strive to provide loving homes for the animals in our care. Sometimes even the happiest or friendliest of animals needs a little extra care; such is the case for a FeLV positive cat.

FeLV or Feline Leukemia Virus is a virus that can suppress the immune system, cause cancer or other serious illnesses in infected cats.

The FeLV virus is spread from one cat to another by bodily fluids. It is commonly spread through mutual grooming or bite wounds but can also be spread through shared food bowls and litter boxes. Cats who have contact with other cats and spend time outdoors are most at risk of contracting FeLV and kittens are particularly susceptible.

Currently, there is no cure for FeLV. Treatment is aimed at preventing and managing secondary diseases. Treatments involves: keeping FeLV positive cats indoors only. This will minimize the cats exposure to infectious diseases and prevent your cat from spreading the virus to other cats.

In addition, feeding your cat a high quality nutritious diet which does not include raw foods also helps. Raw foods can carry bacteria and parasites which can cause problems in immunosuppressed cats. And finally, schedule a check up with your vet more often than usual; at least twice a year is highly recommended. Carefully monitoring your cat will help detect problems early. Closely watch for any changes in health or

behavior and notify your vet.

FeLV-positive cats can live perfectly happy lives, and they deserve to do so. People who have FeLV-positive cats just need to be aware that they may have a shorter life span and that they need to be taken to a veterinarian as soon as a problem is noted.

Your help makes the difference for the hundreds of homeless and abandoned animals. Your continued support helps us save even more lives.



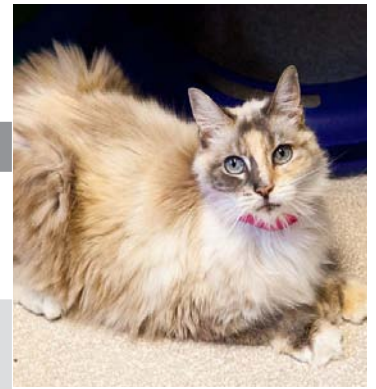
Merlin, a 2 year old, FeLV positive cat is available for adoption at AVHS.

Beautiful, talkative, indoor only cat looking for that forever single-cat home or with other leukemia positive cats. Merlin is a handsome guy with a great personality and always a meow to share, especially at meal time. Merlin is very happy and healthy now, but has adoption restrictions as he must be indoors-only to limit spread of the disease and should live as a solo cat or with other FeLV positive cats. FeLV poses no risk to dogs or humans.



SUPPORT 2014 & 2015 Events

Day	Event	Purpose
DEC 6 & 13 2014	PHOTOS WITH SANTA PAWS	On Saturdays, Dec. 6 & 13 from 9 am - 1 pm, bring your pets to AVHS to have their picture taken with Santa Paws. A 4"x 6" print in a holiday card is \$10. By purchasing the digital version option you receive a print and a digital version of the photo for \$15.
MAR 28 2015	WINNER'S CIRCLE GALA	The Auburn Valley Humane Society's Winner's Circle Gala will take place on Saturday Mar 28 at Emerald Downs from 5:30 - 9:30 pm. It will include a silent and live auction, wine bottle ring toss, 50/50 raffle and other fun games. Tickets are \$75 or a table of 8 for \$500. Tickets available in January at the shelter or online at www.auburnvalleyhs.org .
MAY 16 2015	PETPALOOZA	Join us at the City of Auburn's Petpalooza event at Game Farm Park from 10 am to 5 pm. Our AVHS booth will feature prize drawing baskets, toys, sportswear and fun contests.
MAY-OCT 2015	PET PHOTO CALENDAR CONTEST	Get ready to submit your favorite pet photo starting May 1 st . Photo must be in by September 30 th . Encourage your friends and family to vote for your pet. \$1 per vote. Fourteen monthly winners will be chosen from the photographs which receive the most votes. The pet with highest votes will be featured on the front cover photo. Calendars will be on sale by November 15 th .
JUN 27 2015	TOUR DE PAWS	The Tour De Paws event will include 4 bicycle rides, 15, 30, 65 and 100 mile distances along Green Valley Road, Black Diamond, Ravensdale Enumclaw Plateau and back to Auburn for lunch. The event will take place on Saturday, June 27 from 9 am to 2 pm.
OCT 10 2015	BARKTOBERFEST/ ROVER ROMP	Community fundraising event featuring dog demonstrations, rescue organizations, adoptable pets, kids zone, specialty vendors and a 3K/5K walk/run Rover Romp from 10 am - 2 pm, Roegner Park.



VOLUNTEER LEND A PAW



For the last twenty-two months, over 1,300 AVHS volunteers provided over 42,000 hours of service at the AVHS shelter and thrift store. Come join the volunteers and help us continue to change lives... four paws at a time!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION!

"I follow the adoptions on Facebook..."
 "I visit each room to see who is in the shelter and ask who was adopted..."

"I love taking the animals to an adoption event and cry when they go to a new forever home ..."

...AVHS volunteers

VOLUNTEER PROCESS

- Complete a volunteer application.
- Attend a volunteer orientation to learn about the organization and also learn about the various opportunities available to volunteers.
- Interview with the Director of Volunteers and schedule your training and volunteer experience.
- Start volunteering! You can enter hours online when volunteering using Volgistics Information Center portal.

Without volunteers, we would not be able to provide the quality care for the abandoned and lost animals in our community.

Banana Republic volunteers came for the day to clean the crates and the food room within the shelter.



Message from the Board President

Auburn Valley Humane Society continues to grow. This summer and fall have seen our executive director, staff and volunteers working hard to expand our services for the community and the pets in the shelter. In July the Auburn Valley Humane Society Thrift Store and More opened and has been very successful thus far. I would encourage you to visit the store on East Main and M Street. You can pick up some good bargains and make donations of good clean, usable items. Of course all proceeds go to benefit animal operations, adoptions and programs at the shelter. The thrift store revenues will help us expand shelter hours opened for adoptions and services, add humane education programs, pets of domestic violence program, and pet food bank and allow

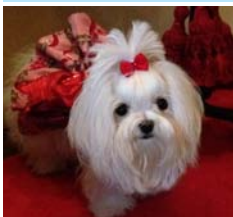
us to continue to provide the high standard of veterinary care for which Auburn Valley Humane Society has become well known.

The annual Barktoberfest/ Rover Romp continues to grow and was a huge success this year. The annual calendar contest just concluded and I am anxious to see this year's calendar with all those cute and cuddly animal friends pictures. The calendar contest proceeds also go directly to benefit all the animals that pass through our shelter.

It is the top priority of our board of directors to make sure all fund raising event proceeds directly benefit animal care, adoptions, medical care of pets, community outreach and the education of pet owners. Remember when you shop and donate at the Thrift Store you are helping the shelter. Also remember to license your pet. All license proceeds go to the shelter and the license serves as identification and will help us get your pet home if he or she ever does become lost.

As always I want to thank our staff, volunteers and board members for the hard work and dedication they give to the organization. Finally, I want to thank all of our loyal donors for the generous contributions you make to help the lost and forgotten animals of Auburn. We cannot do what we do without all of you!!

**Donald Edwards, DVM
President
AVHS Board of Directors**



Olivia has the most votes - featured on the front cover

AVHS Pet Photo Calendars will be on sale at the shelter and online starting in mid-November. Don't delay.. there is a limited supply. The 2015 AVHS calendar features 14 pets that received the most votes and will be featured on a monthly page. The one with the most votes will be featured on the front cover. The fourteen month calendar

supporting the shelter programs will be on sale for only \$15. Many thanks to our sponsors: Green River Veterinary Hospital, Auburn Veterinary Hospital, Oliveira-CPA, Singletary Law Office, Tiki Tails, Minuteman Press of Auburn, Forest Hill Veterinary Clinic, Some Like It Shot Photography, Dr. Robert Pavalunas DDS, Mike Scarff Subaru of Auburn, Columbia Bank, Spectrum Signs and Kiwanis Club of Auburn.

LOYAL PAWS PROGRAM



Auburn Valley Humane Society's supporters purchase a \$35 Loyal Paw Card

- Card entitles the patron to money saving discounts
- Discounts at Loyal Paw participating businesses for one year
- Discounts at participating veterinary clinics, grooming stores, obedience schools, pet specialty stores, boarding kennels, photographers, fence contractors and many more businesses

**BUY ONLINE OR
AT THE AVHS
SHELTER**

**SAVE
the DATE**



Winner's Circle Gala



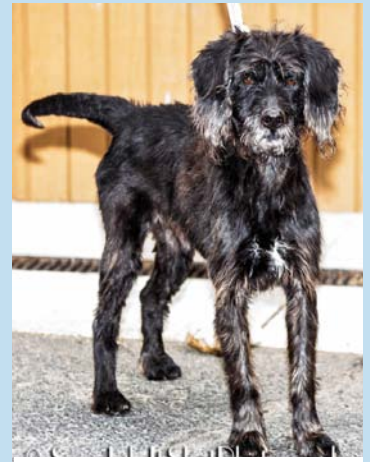
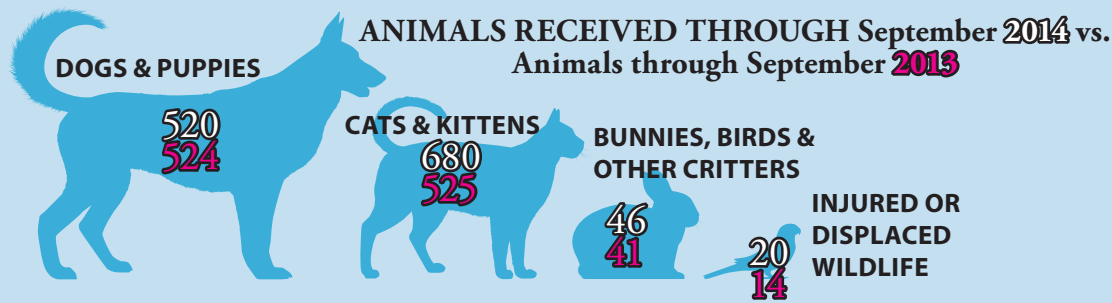
**Saturday, March 28
5:30 - 9:30 pm
Emerald Downs
2300 Emerald Downs Drive, Auburn**

- **Fabulous Buffet Dinner**
- **Door Prizes**
- **50/50 Raffle**
- **Silent & Live Auction**
- **Wine Bottle Ring Toss**
- **Tickets: \$75 per person/ Table of 8 \$500**

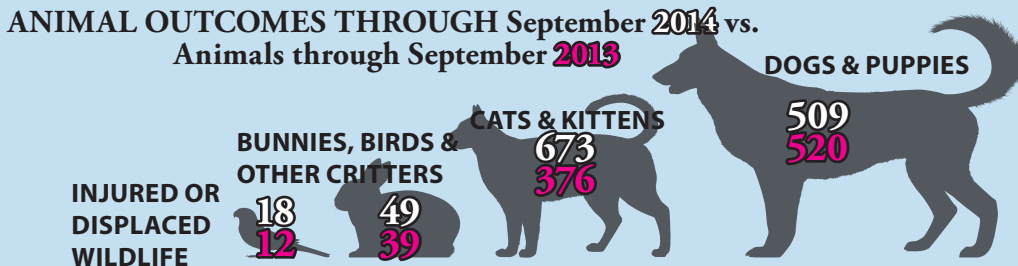
Help raise funds for our homeless, lost and abandoned animals

for more information, contact 253-249-7849 or visit www.auburnvalleyhs.org

Operating Statistics



Stanley came to AVHS as a stray. Having a great personality, the five year old American Water Spaniel - Terrier mix, was adopted to a new loving forever home.



*The remaining animals are in foster care or at the shelter.

The Auburn Valley Humane Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization who partners with the City of Auburn for the housing of the lost and stray animals within the city limits of Auburn. The AVHS shelter opened on January 1, 2013. AVHS serves King and Pierce County for pet adoptions and owners looking to re-home their beloved pets.

No adoptable animals have been euthanized in the first year of operation!

Thank you for helping us save lives. . . four paws at a time!

Thanks for the support

Barktoberfest: A day centered around our four-legged friends

Lots of folks spent a fun-filled day in the park that benefited the homeless and abandoned pets in Auburn. Barktoberfest is the AVHS's annual fundraising event. Highlights included over 50 specialty vendors, contests, rescue organizations, adoptable animals and a Rover Romp 3K and 5K walk/run!

The pet costume contest, best pet trick, and muttsical chairs contest got humans and dogs alike involved in having a little interactive fun with one another.

Great prizes were raffled including pet related baskets donated by Evangers Dog & Cat Food, Tiki Tails Dog Salon, All the Best and Some Like It Shot Photography.

The Valley Professional Firefighters Local 1352 provided Dogs for Dogs...hot dogs, chips and drinks for hungry participants. Over 400 people participated in the Barktoberfest/Rover Romp raising over \$23,000 for our homeless animals in the community. Thank you for helping us change lives... four paws at a time!



5K Runners and their dogs



Dressed for the event at Barktoberfest



AVHS Prize Drawing Crew



Specialty items for each of these special pets

I saved a Human today!



by Nona Maki and Meep

When I started working at the shelter, I knew I would fall in love with all the animals that came in stated Nona. I had the staff put me on a "Do not adopt" list to keep me from adding anymore pets to my already full home.

When Meep came into the shelter she was a mess. She was matted and flea infested. Her eyes were covered by matts and unruly fur. Her teeth were of no use to her, as they were rotten beyond saving. Her nails were so long, walking was painful. But, there was a sparkle in her eye. I could tell there was still so much love in her heart.

I knew from the second I saw her, that she belonged with my family. A month later she went home with me. Meep is the sweetest dog I've ever had in my life. She's well behaved, friendly to everyone and everything, and just plain funny! I love her so much!

She has her own Facebook page at www.facebook.com/everybodylovesmeep.

This allows everyone to follow along, as the rest of her story unfolds, day by day.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE WAYS TO HELP



Use the QR code or visit our website for different options to donate to AVHS.

Consider making a donation to the Auburn Valley Humane Society. Your support is the cornerstone of the dream we share to protect animals in our community. Your ongoing generosity will help ensure the future well-being of countless animals at your animal shelter. The Auburn Valley Humane Society will be able to fulfill our mission of sheltering, rescuing and adopting animals, educating people of all ages to the needs of companion animals with those in our community who need their comfort. We will also be able to fund spay/neuter programs for animals at the shelter, ensure efficient shelter operations, and continue in our goal of creating a more compassionate world. All donations made to AVHS are tax deductible.

Do Good

When planning your year-end giving, please consider a tax deductible gift to Auburn Valley Humane Society. Looking to make your gift go further? Find out if your employer will match your gift to save pets' lives.



The furry critters express their thanks for mailing your donation envelope to us today!

Donate Goods

AVHS relies on donations from the public and we are always in need of supplies. We need:

- canned pate cat food
- dry kitten food
- non-clumping clay cat litter
- paper towels
- copier paper

We also love gift cards to Costco, Lowe's, Walmart, Home Depot, and Office Depot or requests from our Amazon.com wish list. All in-kind donations are 100% tax-deductible.

A personalized plaque will display your generosity and sponsorship for twelve months on a specific kennel at the shelter signifying that the homeless animals will get the best care during their stay.

Sponsor a Kennel



Make your legacy count

Whether you are helping animals in need or honoring your own pet, naming the Auburn Valley Humane Society as a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy affirms your desire to help pets. Together we will enrich the lives of families and communities through adoption services, medical care, education and the prevention of cruelty. An estate gift provides life and love for Auburn's homeless and abused animals, and ensures

them a bright and happy future. The animals which come through our doors are depending on your goodwill. Giving in itself is an act of unconditional love. Giving to animal welfare is one of the purest acts of charity, as you provide for the most vulnerable members of our community. Please join us today? Add the Auburn Valley Humane Society to your estate plan, and let us know so that we can add your name our giving plan.



Give today!

See more at the "support us" tab at our website,



www.auburnvalleyhs.org or click on QR code for details.