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**SHOULD FERAL CATS BE EUTHANIZED?**

By Rhonda Lucas Donald

Feral cats still make their way to the animal shelters. Often, they are turned away because there is no room to house them. However, feral cats are a serious problem in many communities. They can cause damage to the environment and to human health. They can also be a drain on local resources.

The question of responsibility is at the heart of the feral cat issue. Often, these cats are largely unapproachable. They must be trapped in order to be handled, and once trapped, often will not go near a trap again. Some scientists argue that because feral cats live fairly successfully in the wild, they should be considered wild animals and treated accordingly. Dr. Andrew Rowan, director of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy, says, “A cat that’s never been handled by a human is not a pet.” This leads him to the question that is at the heart of the debate over the fate of feral cats: Are these animals really our responsibility?

For the most part, people have treated feral cats as if we are responsible for them. Sometimes this sense of responsibility comes as a result of the problems the cats can cause. Some people attempt to stop the nuisance by eradicating the cats. Others feel obliged to feed these fringe cats and ease their struggles somewhat. Still others see the

Even so, these cats are largely unapproachable. They must be trapped in order to be handled, and once trapped, often will not go near a trap again. Some scientists argue that because feral cats live fairly successfully in the wild, they should be considered wild animals and treated accordingly. Dr. Andrew Rowan, director of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy, says, “A cat that’s never been handled by a human is not a pet.” This leads him to the question that is at the heart of the debate over the fate of feral cats: Are these animals really our responsibility?

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The UFAW Method

In the early 1970s, the Universities Federation of Animal Welfare (UFAW), a group based in England, was one of the first to attempt neutering entire colonies of feral cats and then maintaining the colonies by providing a constant supply of food. In their book, “The Fate of Controlled Feral Cat Colonies,” UFAW lists no fewer than 14 reasons why feral cats need to be controlled, including the “sheer abundance of cats; the unpleasant sight of cat corpses, or of individuals in poor condition; annoying

On The Cover: Cats may look cute in the bird feeder, but the toll they take on songbirds, small mammals, and other wildlife makes this picture anything but cute. For more about the damage cats can do to wildlife, see page 6.
What About the Cats?

In America.

and other animals who could harm
concrete soci-

director of People for the Ethical
method the best for the cats?

this method is acceptable as long as the

obtained colonies, tracking the individual

cats.

From the standpoint of some people
who are working to solve the feral cat
problem, the neuter-and-release
method seems to be an acceptable way
of handling these animals. But is this
method the best for the cats?

What About the Cats?

In theory, the sterilization of feral cat
populations could be acceptable under
the right circumstances. But finding
the right circumstances can be
problematic. Ingrid Newkirk, national
director of People for the Ethical
Treatment of Animals (PETA), says this
method is acceptable as long as the
cats are 1) isolated from roads, people,
and other animals who could harm
them; 2) constantly attended by
people who not only feed them but
care for their medical needs; and 3) I've
lodged in an area where the weather is
constantly temperate. As Newkirk says,
"I don't think this kind of place exists
in America.

Newkirk worked in animal control
for 16 years. In that time, she saw a
lot of feral cats. "The ones I picked up
always had something wrong with
them—they just can't get along in a
concrete society." Newkirk is not an
advocate of the neuter-and-release
method. She believes, as does The
HSUS, that euthanasia, although
unpopular, is the best solution to the
problem.

The usual responsibility we have
for pet cats is suspended when it comes
to ferals. It's not responsible to leave a
child on the railroad tracks and walk
away. It's not responsible to essentially
do the same thing to cats by
releasing them to the streets, even if
they're neutered. You have to play God
whether you neuter and release or
euthanize. It's a matter of responsibil-

ity.

Newkirk believes that part of the
reason why those who neuter and
release are so vehement that their
methods are preferable is because they
don't see what eventually happens
to their charges. The feeders see the cats
at feeding time. If one or more don't
show up, they may miss the animal, but
they don't see what has happened to
him or her. "They are operating in a
bit of a vacuum," she says. "The
caretakers don't realize that if the cats
aren't there, they are going bad and exposes
them. They're not on holiday in the
Bahamas.

Because animal control officers
often do see what happens to these cats,
some of their fates are.
The animal control officer picks up the cats
t hey've been hit by cars, ingested
poison, succumbed to illness, or
suffered a terrible injury. Newkirk
advices ACOs not to "ignore the mar
deperiences they've had—the many
bad endings that these animals meet."

She wants to encourage those in
shelters who must deal with this
problem: "You are doing the right
thing. A lot of people think you are.
I wouldn't have believed that life
for cats is as hard as it is if I hadn't seen
it for myself. Life is more than food."

The Malevolent Public

Ellen Kowalski, a Maryland resi
dent, recently wrote to Cat Fancy
magazine describing how the feral cats
she rescues in Baltimore were used for
"target practice" by kids with "BB
guns, firearms, and even bow and
arrows. The cats in the area are well
fed," she says, "but they have eye
infections, abscesses, sores, and
dehorned limbs." Kowalski has very
strong opinions regarding the neuter-
and-release method: "This practice
should be called the neuter-and-abandon
method because that's what the
advocates are really doing. These
people congratulate themselves for
neuter ing feral cats and saving unborn
kittens from lives of misery. Then they
return the neutered cats to the same
lives of misery."

The concerns of the people living
near feral cat colonies also need to be
addressed. Neutering cats does not
keep them from digging up gardens,
fighting, getting into garbage, or
causing any of the many other prob-
lems that can cause residents. cats
need to be protected from people
who dislike them and may try to harm
them. People may say they are especially
disturbed if, as in most of the cases
studied thus far, the numbers of cats in
the colony increase.

"We applaud the efforts of people
who care for ferals," says Marc
Paulhus, HSUS vice president for
panion animals. "But they can't
stop their caring at stopping reproduc-
tion; they need to go on to taming and
finding proper homes for these ani-

The Inevitable Immigrants

Ironically, the clearest picture of
what goes on in feral cat colonies
may not be an appropriate solution to
the problem of feral cats comes from
UFAW's own report on the feral
colonies they monitored.

For example, one colony had 19 cats
living in "semi-ducted garages." During
four subsequent inspections, the
researchers found that "two entire
[unsterilized] immigrants and one
kitten" joined the colony and were
neutered. "Two dead cats were found
and one cat disappeared, thus leaving a
colony of 19 neutered cats and one
untrappeable male. The next
inspection—revealed that one cat had
died in a car accident, and three others
had been killed by two uncontrolled
dogs. The dogs were soon
removed from the area. Seven immi-
grants had taken up residence in the
garages: six males and a female who
soon produced a litter of four kittens,
all of whom were successfully homed
[adopted]. One of the males
was diseased and was humanely destroyed
(as was another of the original old
males), but the other six adults were
neutered. During 1987, three more
entire immigrants joined the colony."

During the time this colony was
monitored, nine of the original 19 cats
ever disappeared or were killed or
euthanized because of illness, while 17
new cats entered the territory. This
colony grew by eight cats despite the
rather hairy deaths of almost half the
original colony. In another study
colony, the number of feral cats rose
from 70-80 to 100 in one year, even
though the number of feeders dropped
to only one person. During the six and
one-half years that this colony was
watched, 40 kittens were "homed" and
200 cats neutered. Reports on other
colonies tell the same story: large
numbers of original members vanish or
die and new cats come in on their own
or are dumped there by people.

The Fallacy of Territorial Defense

Many experts agree—and UFAW’s
report indicates—that cats do not
defend their territory to the degree that
they prevent new cats from entering it.
Dr. Carol Haspel, associate professor at
LaGuardia Community College in
New York, has studied urban feral cats
for years and written many articles on
the subject. She says cats occupying a
certain area “absolutely do not” keep
others out, “particularly if there is a
feeder.” She describes feral cats as
opportunist consumers who “easily coexist and tolerate others well.”

In fact, recent studies have shown
that rather than living an isolated, indepen-
dent existence as traditionally thought,
feral cats tend to form social groups
similar to the way lions do.

One of the main reasons given, then,
for maintaining feral cat colonies—to
prevent the influx of more cats—is
actually a fallacy. Neither does the
neuter-and-release method save the cats
from injury and disease, or people from
the unpleasant associations with free-
ranging cats. Of UFAW’s 14 reasons
for controlling feral cats, their
neuter-and-release method actually
seems to eliminate just one: “the profusion of
kittens.”

A Question of Legality

Under interpretations of some state
anti-cruelty laws, neuter-and-release
programs can even be considered
illegal. In Florida, for example, a
person who assumes care of any animal
is deemed its legal custodian. Florida
As most owners of outdoor cats know, one pet cat can kill a fair number of wild animals during his or her lifetime. Several recent studies, however, reveal startling statistics about the actual impact cats have on small mammal and bird populations.

• Using a Bedfordshire, England, village as a test site, Peter B. Churcher and John H. Lawton asked resident cat owners to save the remains of animals their pet cats brought home. All but one cat owner participated. Based on their findings, Churcher and Lawton estimated that between one third and one half of all house sparrow deaths can be attributed to cats, and birds aren’t even the majority of what cats catch—small mammals are. They extrapolated their figures for the whole of England and determined that cats kill about 70 million animals a year, 30-50 percent of whom are birds.

• In Virginia, Dr. Joseph C. Mitchell, a zoology professor at the University of Richmond, and his colleague, Dr. Kurt Beck, conducted a study using their own pet cats. During the 11 months of the test, their five cats killed at least 187 animals, mostly small mammals. Of special interest to the team was the number of songbirds killed, as these birds are in decline in the state. They estimated that Virginia’s one million cats kill up to three million birds yearly.

• In another study, Dr. Stanley Temple, professor of wildlife ecology at the University of Wisconsin, concluded that “house cats are probably the principal predator of birds and small mammals in many areas of rural America.” Using figures from Wisconsin and Illinois, he found that outdoor cats kill 47 million rabbits a year—“more than human hunters kill with guns.” Temple points out that “cats may also be the chief threat to some bird populations, especially grassland birds living near farms.”

• Dr. William George, professor of zoology at Southern Illinois University, believes that cats may be the primary threat to hawks, not because they prey on the hawks, but because they compete with them for food.

• In the shire of Sherbrooke, Australia, it is now illegal for pet cats to be outside at the wrong time. Hunters kill with guns.” Temple

Continued from previous page

Continued from previous page counted confirmed kills—not cases in which cats ate their victims or left the bodies hidden. Three million songbirds is not an outlandish estimate. If it’s even half that number, that’s a drastic impact.” Their study also found the cats to prey on frogs, whose numbers also appear to be dropping.

More and more studies demonstrate the devastating effect outdoor cats can have on wildlife populations. Most of these studies involve pet cats. Since it is reasonable to assume that feral cats are even more efficient hunters than pet cats, the damage they inflict on wildlife species could be even greater.

Experts suggest that feral cats are even more efficient hunters. Unowned felines, therefore, may contribute even more than pet cats to the declining numbers of small mammals and birds in urban and suburban locales. Some say that this is natural—cats are merely predators doing what they are supposed to do. However, domestic cats are not natural to the environment. They have been introduced to it in vast numbers and at high densities. The small mammals and birds living in any given area evolved with other predators, but not cats. Adding cats to the equation upsets the balance, with disastrous effects on the animals and the ecosystem.
GUIDELINES FOR THE
HUMANE LIVE TRAPPING OF ANIMALS

By Guy R. Hodge, HSUS Director of Data and Information Services, and Dave Pauli, Director of the HSUS Northern Rockies Regional Office

These basic guidelines governing the humane use of live traps should be helpful for field personnel and can be modified to provide to members of the community who borrow a live trap from the shelter.

When considering purchasing or borrowing a live trap, it is important to remember that a trap is only as humane as its operator. Improper conditions, poor design, insufficient preparation, or improper baiting can cause a live trap to become a death trap. Animal control officers called on to rescue or trap animals, as well as members of the public who wish to trap animals for transport to the shelter, need to be certain they can rely on the trap and that their trapping methods cause as little stress for the animal as possible.

Time of Year

One of the most basic, but most often overlooked, factors to consider before trapping is the time of year. The air temperature may determine whether or not an animal's capture and transport will be humane. Basically, a trap should never be used in temperatures below 32°F or above 80°F Fahrenheit. Most live traps have metal parts that tend to exaggerate air temperature extremes: they can cause traps to retain heat, which may result in heat stress/stroke for the animal, or they can conduct heat away from the animal, which may cause hypothermia.

The other major time consideration is the pregnancy and birthing season of the species to be trapped. Trap-induced stress can cause a pregnant animal to abort, and a nursing mother may cut the animal. All wires, door springs, o-rings, and ferrules should be tightly crimped, and all corners should be smooth.

The trap pan/door release mechanism should operate smoothly. An internal door release wire running directly from the trap pan to the door is preferable. The trap pan should be located at least two thirds of the way toward the rear of the trap. If the trap pan is too close to the door, the door may injure an animal backing out of the trap.

Many things can be done to make trapping easier on the cat. Always keep in mind the well-being of the animal when trapping. This includes taking into consideration whether the animal may be nursing a litter.

Many things can be done to make trapping easier on the cat. Always keep in mind the well-being of the animal when trapping. This includes taking into consideration whether the animal may be nursing a litter.

USEFUL HANDBOOK PROMOTES HUMANE WILDLIFE CONTROL

Does your agency ever reply to questions from local residents about small wildlife problems? If the answer is yes, then pull out the poster on the next two pages and display it in the shelter lobby or elsewhere to promote the useful Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of Wildlife in Cities & Towns. The guide can now be sold directly by your agency as a fundraiser.

At one time or another, almost everyone has to deal with difficult wildlife situations. Whether as a humane agent or animal control officer or as a private citizen, the answers to these tricky problems can sometimes be elusive. Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of Wildlife in Cities & Towns was created to provide those answers.

This handy reference guide is filled with useful information and tips on how to effectively and humanely remove or deter problem wildlife without extermination. It provides clear, straightforward instructions for handling various species and recommends the best methods for individual situations.

Humane agencies can direct people to local bookstores that carry the guide, ask them to contact Falcon Press directly, or become retailers themselves and buy handbooks at a minimum of 40% off the suggested retail price of $6.95. For more information, or to order a supply of books, contact Falcon Press, P.O. Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624; 1-800-582-2665.
Raccoons in your chimney?  
Rabbits in your garden?  
Bats in your belfry?  

**Pocket Guide to**  
The Humane Control of Wildlife  
in Cities & Towns  
Edited by Guy R. Hodge  

Avoid conflicts between people and our furry and feathered friends  
with this handy guidebook published in cooperation with The Humane  
Society of the United States.  

*Humane Control of Wildlife* provides you with clear,  
straightforward information on how to control wildlife  
problems without causing animals harm. Learn how to  
keep birds from hitting your windows, keep deer away  
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1-800-582-2665.  

PHOTO BY DAVID MANSKI

124 pp., 4 1/4 x 7 1/2",  
$6.95, softcover.
make the trap unusable for the next.
Name brands are usually the safest bet, but, failing that, a live trap that is 
should be attached to identify the 
and purpose. The trap 
may be cleaned of factory grease and 
may help reduce metal friction. Some 
will also require painting before 
use to prevent rusting.

Improving Efficiency
To increase the speed and improve 
the operation of gravity-drop trap 
doors, consider bolting or wireting 
additional weight (washers, nuts, or 
fishing weights) to the door. This can 
also increase pan tension, allowing 
smaller animals to cross the trap pan 
without tripping the trap. The weight, 
of course, should be attached carefully 
so as not to endanger captured animals.

Overcoming Trap Shyness
Animals who are reluctant to enter a trap 
can be enticed in several ways. It helps, first of all, to cover the wire floor 
with boards, dirt, leaves, grass, straw, or blankets. This also prevents damage 
to the animal's paws and helps absorb 
animal feces.

The size of the trap should also be 
considered: large spaces may intimidate animals. Don't use a trap that is too 
small for the target species, however; 
the longer the distance between the 
gutter pan and the door, the less chance the animal has of escaping.

"Bedding" the trap on steady 
ground, so that it will not wobble or 
shake when the animal enters, will help 
ally shyness in many animals.

When trapping large numbers of 
cats or wildlife, pre-baiting is a good 
practice. The doors of the traps should 
be wired open, allowing the animals to 
eat freely. After several meals, the 
animal will associate the trap with 
positive rewards.

Preparation and Preventative Care
Before a trap's first official use, a tag 
should be attached to identify the 
trap's origin and purpose. The trap 
may be cleaned of factory grease and 
oil with a high-water-pressure cleaning.

If the trap mechanism is sticky, a drop 
of oil, fingernail polish, or floor wax 
may help reduce metal friction. Some 
traps will also require painting before 
use to prevent rusting.

Appropriate Baiting
Bait used in traps should be fresh, 
tasty, and attractive to the particular 
and regions. This may also make the 
confinement period less stressful for 
the animal.

Sometimes a stable water container 
or a rabbit watering bottle is the only 
bait needed in the summer or in arid 
regions. This may also make the 
confinement period less stressful for 
the animal.

A chew/worrying toy, such as an 
apple, a ball, or a plastic film canister 
containing water or bait will distract 
the animal, and help prevent him from 
injuring his claws, teeth, or nose on the 
trap. A worrying toy may also help 
attract the animal into the trap.

Trap positioning, as well as bait, 
should be species-specific. A trap on a 
raised platform, for example, will 
attract cats but not raccoons.

Avoiding Unnecessary Trips
Shelters and humane societies can 
answer "rodent calls" by recommend­
ing homemade traps. Any small plastic 
or metal waste basket or bin at least 10 
inchess deep will make a perfect hu­
mane "pit trap." The container can be 
laid on its side near the rodent's active 
routes to allow the rodent to eat freely 
a few times. Then the container can be 
placed upright, and boxes or boards 
can be arranged to allow the animal to 
climb inside. Quality food placed at 
the bottom of the container will attract 
the rodent, who will drop down and be 
unable to escape. The rodent can be 
released outside, and the place where 
he enters the home should be sealed to 
keep him out.

Preventing Trapping Needs
As animal control officers know, live 
trapping wild animals in residential 
neighborhoods is often an irritating 
and avoidable practice. Educating 
residents of an area about animal-
proofing, a process described in the 
Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of 
Wildlife in Cities & Towns, edited by 
Guy R. Hodge (see enclosed poster), 
will help cut down on these demands. 
If residents are aware that they can 
modify the situation so that problem 
animals are not attracted to begin with, 
the need for some trapping can be 
altogether eliminated. If live trapping is 
necessary, however, taking a careful 
look at the trap and evaluating the 
particular situation beforehand will 
help promote successful and humane 
transport.

Traps with animals inside should be 
carried very carefully to avoid injury 
to the carrier and the animal. Covering 
the trap will also help keep the 
animal calm.
PET SUPPLY RETAILER PROMOTES SHELTER ANIMALS

By Geoffrey L. Handy

There are too many homeless animals already in shelters,” said Cozette Pifer, a company spokesperson for a pet food and supply retail chain called PETSMART. “That’s why we prefer to work with humane organizations in our market cities to help those animals find good homes.”

That’s not the typical corporate line. But PETSMART is not the typical pet supply retailer. PETSMART, with 54 stores in Arizona, Texas, Colorado, and a few other states, is helping local animal shelters through an extraordinary business/non-profit relationship.

It helps that PETSMART caters to the sizable pet-keeping public without contributing to the pet overpopulation problem. The company does not sell dogs and cats and has a corporate philosophy that explicitly states concern for the care and well-being of animals. They do sell birds and freshwater fish, but birds must be euthanized in the shelters'iceps. They also receive free IAMS brand dog and cat food.

PETSMART’s “Kindest Cuts” program helps adoptions, too, by utilizing the groom shop on the premises of each store. Kindest Cuts offers selected animal shelters two free groomings per week at nearby stores. “We offer this service because a nicely groomed animal has a better chance of getting adopted,” said Sara Dogan, PETSMART’s regional marketing manager.

The preponderance of pet supply stores throughout the country is testament to the fact that pet retailers can survive—and indeed thrive—without fueling pet overpopulation through the sale of dogs and cats. Aggressive marketing and promotion of shelters and their animals is helping PETSMART take that idea one step further.

In Arizona, We’ve Found Over 325,000 Reasons Not To Sell Dogs Or Cats At PetSmart.

Patrons of PETSMART are encouraged to bring their pets along while they shop.

Better Than Sex (Almost), And Safer, Too!

Better than sex (almost), and safer, too! You Thought You’d Heard It All Therapy

Take one if they say:

• It’s a husky. Of course he can’t come in the house.
• Cockers spaniels are good with kids.
• He’s been spayed.
• You tell my daughter why you won’t give us a pet.
• We have plenty of time for a puppy; I’m unemployed and my boyfriend’s on welfare.
• We want a cat to live in the garage because we’re both allergic to cats.
• The pet shop assured us they were both females.

Take two if they say:

• She can’t get pregnant, we keep her tied up.
• I love this dog. He’s the greatest pet I ever had. You find him a home.
• She’s been tested for female leukemia! You have to take my cats now. I’m moving to Florida in an hour.
• He needs to live on a farm.
• She’s a purebred Cock-A-Poo.

Take three if they say:

• You’d rather kill him?!
• Of course I’ll let her have one litter. It will make her a better pet.
• I paid $500 for this dog and you want me to give you money?
• Euthanasia? OK, but you won’t kill him, will you?
• I want your name!
• You don’t kill them, do you?
• You won’t have any trouble finding homes for these kittens. They’re beautiful. You’ll hear from my lawyer.
• This dog is worth a lot of money.
• You mean you don’t work here for free?

Problems With the Board of Directors Therapy

Take one if:

• A new board member turns out to be on the “Do Not Place” list.
• A new boa rd member brings a friend to the shelter to adopt an animal and the friend is in your shelter.
• A new board member tells their friend to bring their aggressive cat to the shelter and you’ll find him a home.

Take two if:

• A board member can’t stand to come to the shelter.
• The treasurer of the board forgets to sign paychecks on payday.
• A board member brings a friend to the shelter to adopt an animal and the friend is in your “Do Not Place” file—twice!
• A new board member wants to volunteer at the shelter seven days a week.

Take three if:

• The board of directors wants to save money so they install the new roof themselves. The roof blows off in the first windstorm.
• A board member looks at the monthly statistics and asks, “Why were so many pets put to sleep?”
• The board of directors get a letter of complaint in which you are prominently named. They bring you in for questioning.
• The board of directors get a letter praising your efforts to the sky. The board forgets to say anything about it.

Better Than Sex (Almost), And Safer, Too!

[Image: A couple standing outside a store, with the text “Here Are Just A Couple.”]
It is Not Our Fault!

During last summer’s busy months, shelter personnel at the Animal Welfare Association (AWA, 509 Gibbston-Marlton Rd., Voorhees, NJ 08043) adopted the following credo to help them cope with the stress and guilt they often feel as part of their job. It was written after a particularly bad day by AWA euthanasia technician Patti Judd:

As animal shelter personnel, with various duties and responsibilities, we
have adopted the following promises and declarations:

- We hereby promise to love and to care for the pets brought into this shelter to the best of our ability.
- We promise to make them as comfortable as possible in an impossible situation.
- We promise to do our best to find them new homes.
- When all else fails, we promise to end their lives humanely in order to make room for the endless supply of animals to follow.

However, we also stand firm with the following:

- We did not cause these animals to be born into this overpopulated world.
- We did not cause these pets to become a problem or inconvenient to their owners.
- We did not cause their owners to move, to have kids, to become allergic to them, or to become ill. We still do not accept, nor allow to be placed on us, the guilt that belongs to the owners of these pets. It is not our fault!

Pet Theft Regulations Apply to Some Shelters

If your shelter is one of the few that still releases dogs and cats to dealers for eventual research or medical education purposes, either voluntarily or by legal mandate, your agency should be aware of pending federal regulations. Congress amended the federal Animal Welfare Act in 1990 to discourage traffic in stolen pets. Although the final version of the Act has yet to be issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, the law requires all public and private animal shelters that release or sell animals to dealers or licensed research facilities to hold and care for stray dogs and cats for at least five days, including a Saturday, before releasing or selling them to dealers or research facilities. This will enable the animals to be recovered by their original owners.

To further discourage pet theft, the law also requires that a certificate accompany all random source animals to their final destination. (Random source animals are dogs or cats obtained from pounds, shelters, auction sales, or any person who did not breed and raise them on his or her premises.) This certificate will include, among other things, the name and address of the person, pound, or animal shelter from which the dealer obtained the animal, and an assertion that the person, pound, or shelter was notified that the dog or cat might be used for research or educational purposes. This certificate must also include a statement by the pound or shelter (if the dealer acquired the dog or cat at such a shelter) that it satisfied the five-day holding period requirement.

These federal regulations will apply only to sheltering facilities that already release animals for research or medical education purposes. The HSUS, however, recommends that all animal shelters have a minimum holding period of five working days—which include Saturday and evening hours—for all animals not surrendered by their owners.

According to APHIS, it has not yet been decided when the regulations will be issued in final form and take effect. Although the regulations are not expected to have a major impact on shelters, they will add to the already heavy burden of work for many animal shelters whose staffs are already working overtime. The HSUS urges animal shelters that currently hold stray animals less than five working days to adopt the five-day policy immediately.

The HSUS is categorically opposed to the release of animal shelters for research or educational purposes. The “Stop Pound Seizure” Information Kit, created to help animal activists put an end to this practice, is available for $5 from HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Plans for Animal Care Expo ’93 Underway

Animal Care Expo ’93, scheduled for March 17-20, 1993, at the Twin Towers Hotel and Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, is shaping up to be even better than last year’s event. Here’s an update of what’s new so far:

- Computerized registration;
- Complimentary registration for organizations that publicize Expo ’93 in their advertising, newsletters, and magazines;
- Improved workshops with beginning-and-advanced levels, longer sessions, more hands-on, and more solution-oriented topics; and
- Pre- and post-Expo workshops, including an all-day animal first-aid and CPR class.

Keep an eye out for additional updates on Expo ’93 in upcoming issues of Shelter Sense, or call 1-800-248-EXPO for more information.

“Adopt One” Campaign in Full Swing

The HSUS’s “Until There Are None, Adopt One” campaign is in full swing, with animal shelters across the country participating. The HSUS has a number of materials to help shelters promote adoptions. The “Choose a Pal for Life” brochure answers questions about adopting shelter animals, and who can resist the faces on the “Choose a Pal for Life” poster? The educational new Close-Up Report, “Reversing the Count” (dated May 1992), discusses pet overpopulation, talks about spaying and neutering, and encourages shelter adoptions. The brochures are 10 for $2.00 (25 for $5.00); the poster is $2.00 ($1.00 each for six or more); and the Close-Ups are 12 for $2.00 (25 for $3.50). Order from The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20037. Please include $2.00 for shipping and handling.

This sign, designed using the Reproducible from the special “Adopt One” issue of Shelter Sense (December 1991/January 1992), appeared on Lincoln, Nebraska, buses earlier this year. The bus boards, placed by the Capital Humane Society, are indicative of the increasing visibility of The HSUS’s national “Adopt One” campaign. Please see below for details on obtaining “Adopt One” materials, including reprints of the new Close-Up Report entitled “Reversing the Count.”

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NEW DOCUMENTARY CONFRONTS THE TRUTH

The Animal Rights Information Service, Inc. (ARIS) has created a haunting and uncompromising documentary perfect for shelters to use in their high school and adult education programs. Born to Be Betrayed boldly presents the facts, unrelentingly reveals the images, and courageously presents the facts, unrelentingly in their high school and adult education programs. Born to Be Betrayed is one in a series of ten videos on animal issues. Each VHS tape costs $21 (for 1/2 inch) or $35 (for 3/4 inch). ARIS will mail tapes free-of-charge to local cable television companies if the public access coordinator of the company is interested in airing the program. For more information, or to order Born to Be Betrayed or another tape, contact ARIS at P.O. Box 20672, Columbus Circle Station, New York, NY 10023; (212) 581-1120.

Please Note

The April 1992 issue of Shelter Sense included photos of wolf-dog hybrids on the cover and on pages 9 and 12. These photos were taken on the West Coast, not at Wolf Park. Wolf Park, a research and education facility in Indiana that works on behalf of wolves only, does not provide sanctuary for wolf-dog hybrids.

Job Announcements

Advertisements are free and limited to job openings in humane organizations or animal-control departments. Advertisements must be submitted on your organization’s letterhead no later than five weeks before the month of the issue in which you want your ad to appear. Please limit announcements to 50 words (including address). Sorry, Shelter Sense cannot print “position wanted” ads.

Director of Operations — For the Humane Society of Austin and Travis County. Looking for progressive, experienced individual to direct operations of shelter handling over 40,000 animals yearly. Requires expertise in kennel management, budget management, and staff supervision. Must have strong computer skills. Salary commensurate with experience. Send detailed resume to Sally Burton, Box 1386, Austin, TX 78777.

Fundraiser/Executive Director — For the California Horse Adoption and Protection Society. Seeking expert guidance in administration, fund raising, organization, staff supervision, and public speaking. Existing chal­lenges for experienced professional. Send resume to CHAPS, P.O. Box 982, Carmel, CA 93923.

Operations Manager — For the new Humane Society of Utah. Will be responsible for leadership and direction in adoptions, receiv­ing, grooming, maintenance, and janitorial divisions. Bachelor’s degree in business or com-

Every day is the same. The doors open. Strangers slowly walk past the holding pens, stopping to look briefly at each ani­mal. Dozens of eyes return their glance. Confused, frightened eyes, all begging for a moment of attention. A few poke their noses through the stainless steel gates. A sniff of a hand. A friendly lick of a finger. Anything to beat the odds and find a home.

This year, thousands of puppies and kittens will end up at our animal shelter. Some are lost and have no tags to identify them. Some are strays, picked up from the streets. Most are the result of unplanned litters. And the odds are, the majority of them will never find homes and will have to be put to sleep.

These statistics are alarming. But the real tragedy is that most of this could be avoided if all pet owners did two things.

First, register your pet. Without tags there’s no way to locate you if your pet is found. Second, spay or neuter your pet. You’ll not only help to reduce the thousands of pets put to sleep each year, but you will help your pet have a healthier life.

For more information, please contact us or your veterinarian. Thousands of pets are dying for the chance to come home. With your help, they won’t need to.
It’s Working!

The HSUS Adopt-A-Teacher Program is working for hundreds of shelters around the country. Here’s what one shelter employee told us after visiting a classroom:

“I complimented the teacher on her students’ sensitivity and asked if they were a “high” group. (They really stood out from the other classes.) She seemed surprised and assured me that they weren’t. Then I saw a KIND News on the corner of her desk. You guessed it! She’d been ‘adopted’ and had been using Adopt-A-Teacher materials all semester. It’s working! Congratulations on an effective program! . . .”

Houston, TX.

The Adopt-A-Teacher program can work for your shelter too, improving your image—and your funding base. The materials go home with students to help teach family members about responsible treatment of animals. And, the low $18 per year cost does not have to come from shelter funds, but rather from outside funding sources. Let us show you how to get started.

Clip below and send to HSUS Adopt-A-Teacher Program, P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423-0362.

____Yes! Send free information on how to make the HSUS Adopt-A-Teacher Program work for us!

Name: ___________________________________________ Organization: __________________________

Address: __________________________________________

Address Correction Requested