

MassPAWS Newsletter

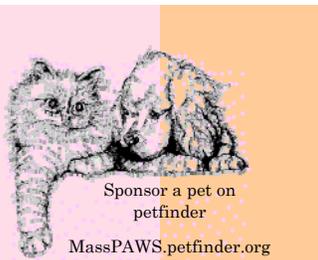


Since its inception, MassPAWS has assisted over 2,000 homeless animals.



Easy Ways to Support Us

1. You can donate online with www.PayPal.com to MassPAWS@aol.com
2. Call (617) 846-5586
3. Send us a check; (sign up to receive our News Letter)
MassPaws,
PO Box 520136,
Winthrop, MA 02152



Sponsor a pet on petfinder

MassPAWS.petfinder.org

It's Easy to Become a MassPAWS Supporter

You can become a supporter of MassPAWS and save even more animals on the North Shore with a one time donation or by donating monthly!

Help Us Save More Animals

A Message From Our President — Beverly Alba

“An Inside Cat Is A Safe Cat” We’ve said it a thousand times, but time and time again, we are receiving calls about outdoor cats in poor health and/or badly injured. In Winthrop alone this past year, we have received three times the number of calls for cats in trouble outside this year. Most are males, most are beaten up by another cat, a car, a barbed wire fence. Many are female cats with a litter of kittens. Some are dead in the street when we get there. I’ve asked over and over: “What Are These Cats Doing Outside?”

Are we collectively not getting the message across? We respond as often as we can. We commit the extraordinary funds and care these cats in trouble require. We cry over the ones lost to the street. In Lynn this summer, a cat with a deformed front paw, a compound fracture of his rear leg, and FIV positive. In Winthrop: 2 cats with life-threatening respiratory infections, 2 males with severe bite wounds, an abandoned female with an ear hematoma, a male with a metal washer embedded in his foot. In Revere: kittens dead on the street in Beachmont, a young female quarantined for a leg wound, a feral cat with a tumor, kittens with deformed legs, a male with a non-healing tail wound. In East Boston, a male so severely attacked by another animal his injuries were life ending. I won’t go on; there are many more sad cases. I fully expect to hear this winter as usual about cats outside dehydrated and with frostbite. No one seems to want to hear about the sad cases. This is reality, unless we are all advocates for keeping pet cats indoors.

I personally continually lament the lack of support we get for this message from Animal Control, from other humane organizations, even from veterinarians. We have brought many, many of these cats inside for rehabilitation and foster care. I can assure you: they do not want to go outside again! They are most comfortable and happy with a warm bed, attention, and consistent meals! Their tiny bodies are NO MATCH for the coyotes, the cars, the barbed wire fences, and other perils of life outside either in the city or the suburbs. Wildlife (skunks and raccoons) carry distemper and rabies, both contagious to cats. Coyotes and Fisher Cats are encroaching in both the city and suburbs, looking for an easy meal. In our view, it is inhumane to let pet cats out. They don’t need it at all.

Folks talk about the “emotional needs of cats”. Create a sunny window perch. Create a vertical space like a tall scratching post. Get your cat a pal, feline or canine, and cat-friendly toys. You get back what you give, and more, and you will see they are happy and content. Most remember the outdoors as threatening, and are afraid to go out again. Spay and neuter on time (male cats are frequently “thrown out” when they spray because they have not been neutered on time; female cats are “thrown out” when they are howling in heat because they have not been spayed on time). “Oops” litters of kittens must not happen; the survival rate for kittens born outside is 50% or less. Kittens as well as cats are destroyed in shelters and Pounds in the THOUSANDS right here in Massachusetts every year, an unforgivable societal disgrace. Outside unsupervised, roaming at will, placing cats at real risk is NOT HUMANE.

While we all want to hear about the successes, and we are successful for hundreds of cats every year, our work will continually be sabotaged unless cats are spayed and neutered before reproduction and kept inside. We ask for your support in this humane mission; please help spread the word and be an advocate for responsible cat ownership in our communities.

Responsible cat owners keep cats INSIDE where they are SAFE. Cats are special, and they are precious; we need to treat them all that way.

Please Support the Massachusetts Animal “Friendly License Plate Initiative”.
www.MassAnimalCoalition.org



Please Have Your Pet Spayed or Neutered

Approximately five to seven million adoptable dogs and cats enter animal shelters nationwide each year. Of those, approximately three to four million are needlessly euthanized simply due to a lack of space or resources to adequately care for them. Overpopulation is the leading cause of unnecessary euthanasia. This is largely due to an inadequate number of spayed and neutered pets, even among those living with otherwise responsible pet parents. Experts estimate that half of all puppies and three-quarters of all kittens born in the U.S. are the result of unplanned litters.

I Rescued a Human Today

Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her. I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid.

As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the shelter keepers get too busy and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

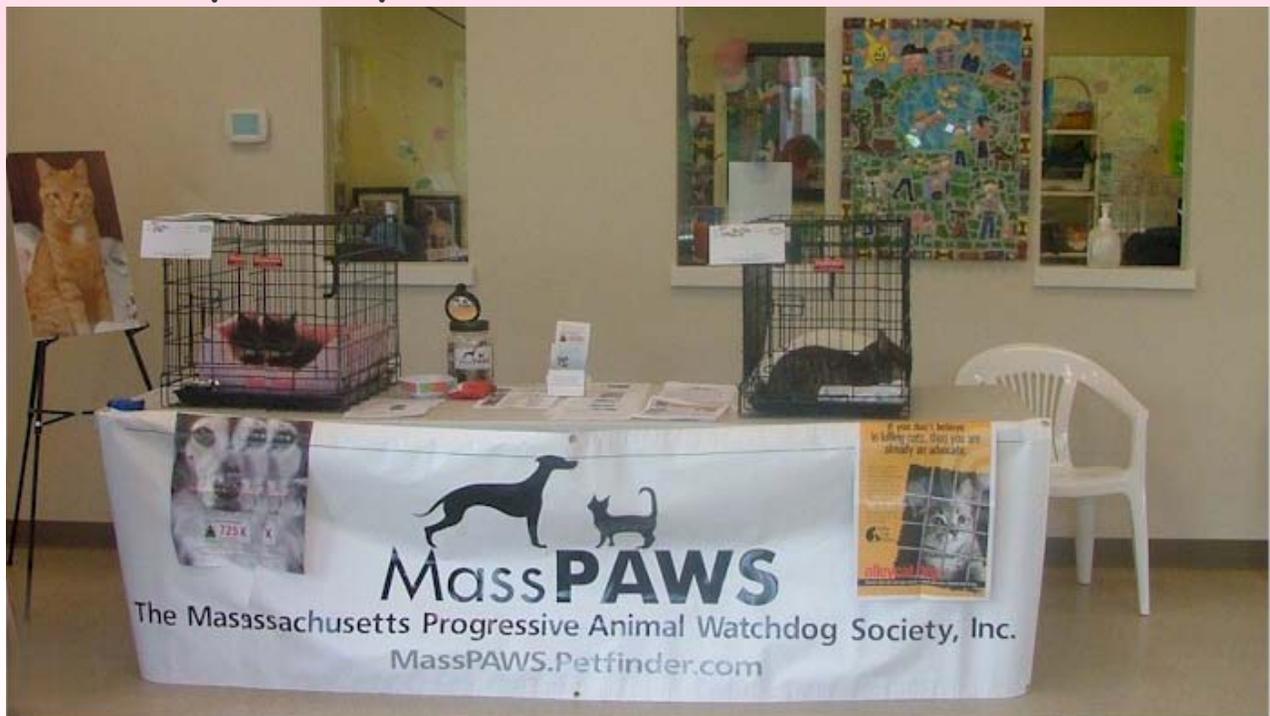
As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life. She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her.

Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well.

Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms. I would promise to keep her safe. I would promise to always be by her side. I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes. I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today.

Adoption Day at the Northeast Animal Shelter



In June, MassPAWS joined PALS (Peabody Animal Life Savers) for an adoption day at Northeast Animal Shelter. Sausalito was adopted that day. Maggie and Yodi are still waiting for their forever homes. Thanks to Northeast for sponsoring this day and giving us space to show some of our cats available for adoption !



Maggie



Yodi

Why Male Cats Should Be Neutered

Population Control ♦ Health Benefits ♦ Behavioral Improvements

These are some of the many reasons male cats should be neutered.

Sadly, millions of cats and kittens are euthanized in the United States each year because there simply aren't enough homes for all of them. Loving pet owners and care-givers can do their part to reduce the number of homeless cats and kittens by having their male cats neutered (and females spayed). These simple, one-time surgeries also help our feline friends lead longer, healthier and happier lives and promote a more enjoyable human-animal relationship.

Too often, cat owners think first of the mother when the topic of cat overpopulation comes up. After all, it's females that have litters. Females come into heat every two to three weeks until they are finally mated. Certainly, females should be spayed, a common abdominal surgery to remove the ovaries and uterus.

Males, on the other hand, do not actually go into heat, but starting as young as four months of age, they are always ready, able, and willing to breed any females in heat whenever they can. Neutering is the simple procedure of removing the male cat's testicles.

The low-cost "Quick Fix" spay/neuter "Quick Fix" spay/neuter clinics and programs are offered by Second Chance Fund For Animal Welfare (SCFAW) in Central Massachusetts and by numerous Boston area organizations; see our Spay/Neuter Resource Flyer and distribute widely! Thank you to SCFAW for use of this article.

Undesirable Behaviors and Health Problems

Unneutered male cats are prone to undesirable behaviors, such as urine spraying to mark their territories. Often and sadly, this leads owners to abandon their male cats or place them in shelters. Neutering dramatically reduces the likelihood of this unfortunate sequence.

Due to the high levels of testosterone in their bodies, unaltered male cats are more likely to be aggressive toward their human companions. And fighting among unneutered males is far more common, resulting in bite wounds, abscesses, and transmission of various parasites and diseases. Males that have not been altered are also more apt to wander in search of female cats, increasing the likelihood that they will be lost or hit by cars.

In addition, neutering male cats virtually eliminates the possibility of testicular tumors and cancers and drastically reduces the risk of prostate cancer, thereby increasing the likelihood that he will live a long and healthy life.

Finally, neutering male cats is simply the right thing to do. While male cat owners do not directly face the consequences of their cats' prolific mating habits - i.e., kittens - their unneutered male cats contribute directly to the problem of cat overpopulation.

MassPAWS Fundraiser at Kelly's Square Pub in June 2010 was a HUGE success; our heartfelt thanks to Maria Palmieri Moore and Ann Cantalupo for their tireless work and for their loyalty to the animals; and to the good cat lovers in East Boston who support our work as well; without all of you MassPAWS would not be able to help the many animals these benefits provide! BRAVO!



A Free and Easy way to help MassPAWS is a click away!

Please use **GoodSearch** for your web searches and type in **MassPAWS** as the organization as the "Who Do You **GOODSEARCH FOR**". Each time you use GoodSearch, MassPAWS benefits.

Just go to www.GoodSearch.com & type in **MassPaws** and then click the **VERIFY** button!



WHO DO YOU GOODSEARCH FOR? ?

Verify

Enter the charity or school you support here then click "verify."
Next, search from above and earn money for your cause!

Get the GoodSearch toolbar or add us to your search box >

Make GoodSearch your homepage >



Jaspurr, shown here at his checkup at Revere Pet Clinic, was born to a feral mother cat in East Boston. The mother spayed &

vaccinated and returned to her colony. Jaspurr, fostered by Carol, is now in a wonderful home.

We're on the Web!
MassPAWS.PetFinder.org

Found in an East Boston Neighborhood, Pumpkin is very friendly & thin had a puncture wound which went all the way through his paw. Once he is neutered, he will be available for adoption.



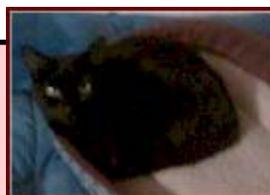
Summer Pet Care

When the lazy days of barbecues and swimming pools roll around, you can make them even better by sharing them with your favorite pet. By following a few summer pet safety tips, you can keep your animal friends healthy and enjoy the months of sun and fun. If you need to run some errands, leave the furry ones at home.

- ◆ **As you're outside enjoying the warm weather, keep your pet leashed.** It will keep her from getting lost, fighting other animals, and eating and drinking things that could make her sick. This tip isn't just for dogs--even cats can learn to walk on a leash if you train them.
- ◆ **Water, water everywhere.** Whether you're indoors or out, both you and your pet need access to lots of fresh water during the summer, so check her water bowl several times a day to be sure it's full. If you and your furry friend venture forth for the afternoon, bring plenty of water for both of you.
- ◆ **Pets need sunscreen too.** Though all that fur helps protect her, your pet can get sunburned, particularly if she has light skin and hair. Sunburn in animals can cause problems similar to those it can cause in people, including pain, peeling, and skin cancer. So keep your pet out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., and when you do go out, rub a bit of sunblock on unprotected areas like the tips of her ears, the skin around her lips, and the tip of her nose.
- ◆ **Say no to tangles.** Keeping your pet well groomed will help her hair do what it was designed to do: protect her from the sun and insulate her from the heat. If she has extremely thick hair or a lot of mats and tangles, her fur may trap too much heat, so you may want to clip her.
- ◆ **Watch out for antifreeze.** Hot weather may tempt your pet to drink from puddles in the street, which can contain antifreeze and other chemicals. Antifreeze has a sweet taste that animals like, but it's extremely toxic. When you're walking your pet, make sure she doesn't sneak a drink from the street.
- ◆ **Make sure your pet doesn't overexert herself.** Though exercise is important to keep your dog or cat at a healthy weight, which helps her body stay cool, overdoing it can cause her to overheat. Keep the walks to a gentle pace and make sure she has plenty of water. If she's panting a lot or seems exhausted, it's time to stop.
- ◆ **Bring them inside.** Animals shouldn't be left outside unsupervised on long, hot days, even in the shade. Shade can move throughout the afternoon, and pets can become ill quickly if they overheat, so keep them inside as much as possible. If you must leave your pet in the backyard, keep a close eye on her and bring her in when you can.
- ◆ **Keep an eye out for heatstroke.** Heatstroke is a medical emergency. If you suspect your pet has heatstroke, you must act quickly and calmly. Have someone call a veterinarian immediately. In the meantime, lower the animal's body temperature by applying towels soaked in cool water to the hairless areas of the body. Often the pet will respond after only a few minutes of cooling, only to falter again with his temperature soaring back up or falling to well below what is normal. With this in mind, remember that it is imperative to get the animal to a veterinarian *immediately*. Once your pet is in the veterinarian's care, treatment may include further cooling techniques, intravenous fluid therapy to counter shock, or medication to prevent or reverse brain damage.



These 3 will be ready for adoption soon.



This is Winter



3 more beauties looking for a home.



The Massachusetts Progressive Animal Watchdog Society, Inc.

MassPAWS.Petfinder.com

Spay / Neuter Information

Thousands of kittens, cats and dogs are stray, abandoned, homeless and unclaimed every year in Massachusetts; sadly, many are destroyed. Please have your pet spayed or neutered, show your love and keep them safe!

- Find upcoming low cost **CATMOBILE** Spay/Neuter clinics at MRFRS.org or call (888) 495-SPAY/7729.
- The **S.T.O.P. Clinic**; this mobile unit drives to many cities performing low cost Spay/Neuter (cats only, fee includes initial vaccinations) www.TheStopClinic.com Call the S.T.O.P. clinic at (617) 571-7151
- Low cost Spay/Neuter certificates at **Friends of Animals** www.FriendsOfAnimals.org or call (800) 321-7387
- **Animal Rescue League SPAY Waggin'** (877) 590-7729, a mobile unit that provides low cost spay and neuter for cats and dogs under 60 pounds, fee includes initial vaccines. www.arlboston.org/sw
- **Alliance For Animals** offers low cost Spay/Neuter services 232 Silver St., South Boston, (617) 268- 7800 www.afaboston.org
- **NOTE: will spay/neuter Pit Bulls for FREE.**
- **MSPCA SNAP** (617) 541-5005 & **Shalit-Glazer** (617) 541-5007 programs, assisting low-income households with Spay/Neuter needs; go to: www.mspca.org and search SNAP or Shalit-Glazer
- **Merwin Animal Clinic** 542 Cambridge St. Allston 617-782-5420 Walk-in clinic open 12-3 Mon-Sat

For a summer busy with climbing under porches and over bushes and into sheds to find mother cats with kittens (and the Tom cats), we still found time to participate in some important events for animals:

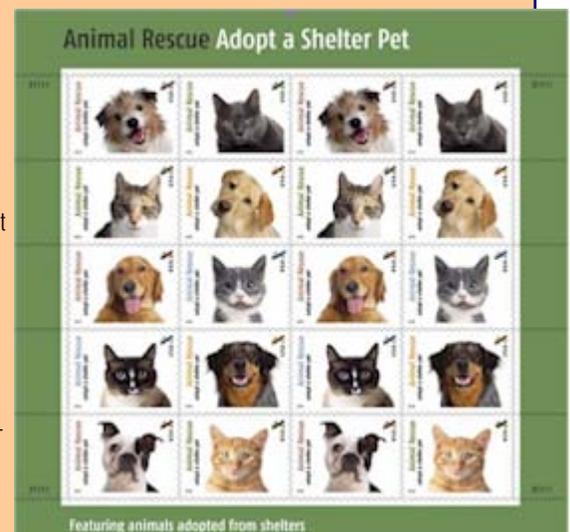
MassPAWS participates in the Animal Rescue League of Boston "Sunday Feral Clinics" year round, which are dedicated to spaying and neutering the feral cats in the City of Boston. Al and Carol have trapped, transported, recovered and released over 100 feral cats from East Boston this year to date. This will significantly improve the life of feral cats in East Boston, and prevent further litters. In one June clinic, they brought 4 mature Tom cats, who we are sure were responsible for fights and more kittens. A landmark study by Dr. Gary Patronek shows that the communities where humane groups intervene and aggressively spay and neuter and render vet care, have a lower incidence of premature cat deaths, so we know we are making a difference! MassPAWS has a presence at the Boston Homeless Cats group meetings, and remains committed to the cats of East Boston.

MassPAWS participated in the 2dogs2000miles.org event on the Boston Common in June, to benefit canine cancer research. Thanks to Amy and Libby for setting up an information table for us!

MassPAWS attended the Boston unveiling of the US Postal Service Animal Shelter stamp. The first class stamp features New England shelter cats and dogs and is still available for sale. Please purchase them and spread the word!

MassPAWS will be in attendance at the September meeting sponsored by the Animal Rescue League of Boston on "The Calgary Model", with Bill Bruce of Calgary, Ontario. He will present a "Best Practices" model of how Calgary integrates the whole community to achieve a successful humane endeavor for animals in need. More to come on this progressive approach!

MassPAWS is an organizational member of the Massachusetts Animal Coalition, and participates in the meetings and programs. MAC sponsors the "Pet Friendly License Plate" and the PILOT (Pets in Limbo) programs, which facilitate spay/neuter for homeless cats, dogs and rabbits, as well as humane events listings, featured pets for adoption, information on pending legislation, and other important ways to help animals. www.massanimalcoalition.org, check it out!



MassPAWS FUNDRAISER — DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

**Please stay tuned for another fabulous Kelly's Square Pub fundraiser
(84 Bennington St., East Boston)**

by MassPAWS' East Boston friends Maria Palmieri Moore and Ann Cantalupo.



Help Homeless Pets in your Neighborhood

Please participate in the PETCO Foundation and PetSmart Charities fundraising programs; *they work!*



MassPAWS has received funds from the sale of the license plates for five years in order to Spay/Neuter hundreds of cats & dogs from our North Shore area. This grant is part of the \$180,000 MAC awarded in 2009 to animal shelters, rescue organizations, and municipal animal control departments across the Commonwealth for spaying and neutering. More than 7,400 "I'm Animal Friendly" license plates have been sold. The grants are used to lower the number of homeless animals by funding programs providing spaying and neutering for cats and dogs at no or minimal cost. As of July 2009, grants totaling nearly \$665,000 have been awarded, and more than 13,000 animals have been spayed or neutered in Massachusetts as a result of the license plate program. The plates can be purchased online through www.mass.gov/rmv/express/mac.htm, or at any full-service branch of the RMV.

"No other disease or condition of companion animals takes as many lives as euthanasia. In fact, no other disease comes close." Janet M. Scarlett, DVM, MPH, PhD, Cornell University . . . *Please, Spay and Neuter Your Pets!*



These 4 kittens opened their eyes the day after their rescue and are being cared for in MassPAWS foster care. Please consider being part of our foster program. Contact MassPAWS for information! Thank You!



Address

PO Box 520136,
Winthrop, MA 02152

Phone

617-846-5586

Website

MASSPAWS.PETFINDER.ORG

We received a check for \$496.00 from the PETCO "National Spay Neuter Drive" initiative. This is most welcome at a time when we still have much work to do, our commitment is never ending . . . Monies were collected from patrons of our local PETCO stores. PETCO understands that the most important long term solution to overcrowded shelters and shelter over-population is spay/neuter.

This is most welcome, at a time when we have more outstanding bills than ever and never ending calls for cats outside. We spayed and neutered over 100 cats just in July and August. Over a dozen required additional medical care; several needed intensive care.

Many thanks to Joan Morabito for continuing our organizational presence at the Saugus PETCO. The Catmobile is also hosted by PETCO once and sometimes twice a month bringing low cost spay/neuter clinics to North Shore neighborhoods; we are very appreciative of their ongoing support for homeless animals in our communities.

Please continue to solicit donations and promote our fundraisers. Our Fall-Winter fundraiser at Kelly Sq Pub will soon be announced.

- Beverly Alba, President MassPAWS

MassPAWS FUNDRAISER — DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

Our Winter fundraiser at Kelly's Square Pub to be held very soon. Please send your email address to MassPaws@aol.com; we will notify you of important information, upcoming events; and so that we can send you our newsletter electronically !



Looking to adopt a cat or two? MassPAWS cats may be seen at Petsmart Salem with our friends from PALS and at Petsmart Saugus with our friends from Melrose Humane Society. Be sure to adopt not shop!!