

The Paw Print

It Takes More Than Luck to Save Lives

Spring is upon us. With temperatures on the rise, and love in the air, it won't be long before the Central Missouri Humane Society sees the effects of breeding season. Litter after litter of "accidental" puppies and kittens will begin to take over the already over-crowded kennels. And with this influx of puppies and kittens comes the increased cost of food and care along with the worry that these precious babies will get sick due to lower immunity and close proximity of several other animals. But there is hope. It definitely "takes more than luck to save lives", so with your love and generosity, you can directly help the CMHS beat the breeding season blues.

First, and most importantly, it is vital that all

non-competition animals are spayed or neutered. This directly impacts the overpopulation problem here at our shelter, as well as nation wide. So please, help us spread the word of the importance of spaying and neutering your pets!

Next comes the important task of keeping the litters of animals that we do get in healthy. We most certainly take all necessary precautions by vaccinating our animals upon intake, but at such a young age, illness can be difficult to avoid in the confines of the shelter. That is where you come in. These litters do so much better outside of the shelter environment, and in the loving homes of foster families. If you have been

fostering, now is the time! Fill out an application today.

Finally comes the need for your generosity. Because babies do a lot of growing, they also do a lot of eating. We have an amazing agreement with Science Diet to purchase a pound of food at a very reasonable rate, but with those growing bodies, one pound of food goes fast. Please consider a monetary donation to offset some of our feeding costs. Durable toys and blankets make great donations too! So remember, it takes more than luck to save lives, it takes YOU!

Educational Tips—Baby Wildlife

Spring is finally near! That means sunshine, trips to the dog park, and baby animals. While teeny tiny wild animals are adorable and sometimes pitiful looking, they are still wild! Here are a few tips on what to do if you find a baby animal this spring. 1) Don't assume they are abandoned. Many adult animals will leave their babies to go find food and will come back for them. Leave them where they are and observe them. If you don't see an adult come back by dusk, then you should call one of the numbers below. 2) If you find a baby bird that is not fully

feathered and unable to stand then it has probably fallen from its nest. If you see the nest nearby, go ahead and place the bird back in the nest. Contrary to popular belief, birds do not have a sense of smell and the parents won't push it out of the nest because you have touched it. 3) If the animal appears injured please leave it where it is and call for help. Injured wildlife, even babies, can become frightened and bite you. 4) If you do feel that you need to move a baby animal, please be safe! Wear thick gloves and pick the animal up with a towel.

Remember that baby animals will need to be safely confined and kept warm until you are able to get them help.

Wildlife Help

DD Animal Farms:

Wildlife Rehabilitation -
(573) 446-0648

Raptor Rehab:

Rescue & Rehab for Birds
of Prey- (573) 882-7821

MO Dept. of

Conservation:

Injured/Abandoned
Wildlife – (573) 660-0778

Animal Control:

Injured Wildlife on

Upcoming Events

March 13th—Low Cost Vaccination Clinic (8-11:30)

Nail Trims (\$5),
Vaccinations (\$10 ea.)
Microchips (\$25)

April 8th—Dining out for Animals:

Lunch (11-1)
Dinner (5-10)

Confirmed Participants

Addison's (Dinner)
Bambino's (Dinner)
Culvers (Dinner)
Flat Branch (Lunch and Dinner)
Heidelberg (Dinner)
All Columbia Jimmy Johns (Dinner)
McNally's (Dinner)
The Pasta Factory (Lunch only)
Roly Poly (Lunch)
Room 38 (lunch and Dinner)
Sophia's (Dinner)

April 25th—Earth Day Peace Park

Come check out our booth and learn how to make pet toys out of recycled materials

Volunteer Spotlight

This month we would like to honor the Pells. Father George and son Ryan are dedicated to say the least. They show up almost every afternoon to give the dogs some much need love and attention... and treats. The small animals get some much needed consideration too, in the form of raisins and treats!

George and Ryan have been devoted volunteers for 3 years. It's great to have such a thoughtful duo that are so consistent and have so much love for ALL of our animals. Thanks guys for all of your hard work!

NEW HOURS FOR CMHS

The Central Missouri Humane Society has decided to change our hours in order to better serve the community.

Beginning April 5th, the CMHS will be **OPEN** Monday through Saturday 12-5 (with extended hours on Wednesdays) and **CLOSED** on Sundays.

Make Mine Chocolate



Hippity Hoppity Easter's on its way. And what animal symbolizes Easter? The Easter Bunny. Unfortunately, many bunnies will be purchased this season, and then quickly relinquished to animal shelters nation wide once the novelty wears off. So, if you're thinking

about getting a bunny for Easter... make it chocolate instead.

Go to www.makeminechocolate.org for more information about bunnies and how you can help!

And remember... Cadbury Eggs are better than baby chicks too!!