

LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES TO COUNTY RESIDENTS

In their ongoing effort to curb the pet overpopulation problem, the Whatcom Humane Society is offering low-cost spay/neuter surgeries to Whatcom County Residents.

The SNAP (spay/neuter assistance program) program works with pet owners on a sliding scale basis to subsidize the cost of the companion animal's surgery.

While the SNAP program assists dogs, cats and other companion animals, pet owners with dogs currently weighing over 45 pounds are eligible for a special discount on surgeries thanks to a grant from a national animal welfare organization.

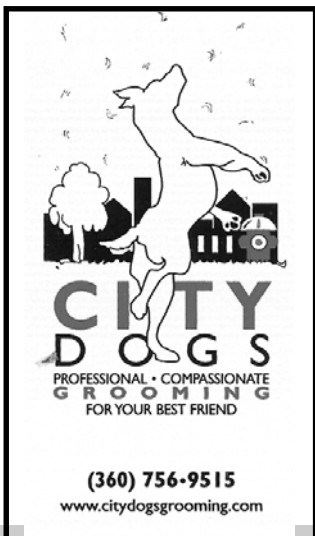
SNAP applications may be picked up at the Whatcom Humane Society Tuesday – Saturday from 10am – 6pm or can be downloaded from the WHS website at www.whatcomhumane.org



Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

(360) 733-2080

www.whatcomhumane.org



NW VETERINARY BLOOD BANK DONOR BENEFITS

For participating in the lifesaving program with the Northwest Veterinary Blood Bank, dogs are eligible for many special offers. They include:

- ◆ CBC, General Health Profile, urinalysis and fecal exams annually
- ◆ Before each donation, a physical exam and total protein and packed cell volume monitoring is done
- ◆ Vaccinations are kept current
- ◆ While donating, teeth are cleaned and tartar is cracked
- ◆ While donating, ears are cleaned and nails are trimmed
- ◆ Advantage flea protection is offered to the owner after the donation
- ◆ A healthy protein packed meal is fed after every donation. *The donors seem to like this part best!*
- ◆ The donor chooses a toy from a basket of goodies
- ◆ A 10% discount is given on all services at Bellingham Veterinary & Critical Care
- ◆ There is no charge for any transfusions the dog may need to receive while under Bellingham Veterinary & Critical Care.
- ◆ The dog must be in the blood donor program for 6 months
- ◆ Many treats and praise for their lifesaving efforts.

For more information about the blood donor program, the NorthWest Veterinary Blood Bank at (360)734-0720.

Support Greenways!



MAPLEWOOD ANIMAL HOSPITAL, PLLC
DAVID A. RABKIN, D.V.M.

2869 West Maplewood Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225
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DOG AND CAT OVERPOPULATION FACTS

Two unaltered cats and all their descendants can number 420,000 in just seven years. 1

◆ Two unaltered dogs and all their descendants can number 67,000 in just six years. 1

◆ “No homes for littermates” is one of the top ten reasons people relinquish their cats and dogs to shelters. 2

◆ The top reason both cat and dog guardians give for not having their pet altered is that they simply have not bothered to do it yet. 3

◆ 20 percent of cat guardians think their cat is too young to be altered and 18 percent say they are not able to afford spay/neuter surgery. 3

◆ 21 percent of dog guardians want to breed their dog and 13 percent think their dog is too young to be altered. 3

◆ An estimated five million cats and dogs are euthanized in shelters each year. That's one about every six and one half seconds. 1

◆ Tens of millions of stray and feral cats struggle to survive on their own outdoors. Although some are altered and live in managed colonies, most are not altered and receive no medical care. They reproduce at will and many suffer from illness or injury before dying. 4

◆ In a study of relinquishment of cats and dogs in 12 U.S. animal shelters, 30 percent of the surrendered dogs were purebreds. 5

◆ The same study indicated that 55 percent of surrendered dogs and 47 percent of surrendered cats were unaltered. 5

Sources: 1. The Humane Society of the United States – Pet Overpopulation Facts 1999, www.hsus.org/programs/companion/overpopulation; 2. National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy www.petpopulation.org/topten; 3. The State of the American Pet – A Study Among Pet Owners October 2000 www.purina.com/images/articles/pdf/TheStateOfThe.pdf; 4. Alley Cat Allies www.alleycat.org; 5. Journal of applied Animal Welfare Science, 1998



WVOA-Whatcom Voice of the Animals

Continued from Page 2

While most of our animals are in volunteer foster homes while awaiting placement, and only seen by appointment, WVOA also has a "cat room" inside Hohl's Feed and Seed at 1322 Railroad Avenue that is open to the public, and potential pet adopter's are always welcome to come by and visit us Monday through Friday 1:30-5:30pm. Additional viewing times are Saturdays, 1-5pm at the Petco store on East Bakerview Road next to Walgreens. WVOA also posts current pictures of all of our pets at:
<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/WA25.html>

Recognizing that there is a great need in the community, WVOA also operates a "Pet Food Bank" program in cooperation with the Bellingham Food Bank, which allows us to set up outside their building and offer our services to their clients. While WVOA has always offered pet food to low-income individuals on a per-call basis, since we started our regularly scheduled distribution dates in June 2005, it has grown quite popular as more people learn of our program. The need is great, often exhausting our available food supply. In the month of December 2005, over 150 persons sought food assistance, providing much-needed food for approximately 390 local pets. We also point out that this program is open to all residents of Whatcom County, although we operate alongside the Bellingham Food Bank, you do not need to live in the City of Bellingham in order to request assistance from WVOA.

Grateful Dogs member-at-large Jay Perelman assists WVOA as a volunteer driver, delivering and distributing pet food at the Bellingham Food Bank three times a month, the 2nd and last Friday afternoons of the month, and the last Wednesday night of the month. All of our pet food that we distribute is either donated by one or two of the larger local retail stores, who generously give us any broken bags or spillage, or that we purchase locally to supplement our donations, which we then repackage for distribution. We are always in need of donated pet food, or funds to assist us purchase supplemental food locally, so even if you only have a opened bag or a couple of cans of something your pet simply didn't like, and didn't know what to do with it, we can always use it, please call us at 360-650-0556, and we

will arrange pickup. Donations of dry or canned pet food for WVOA can also be left at the Bellingham Food Bank, 1824 Ellis Street, during their normal business hours.

Whatcom Voice of the Animals

(please call for appointment)
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Phone: (360)650-0556
 Email: gnthekids@earthlink.net
 Website: <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/WA25.html>



Support Greenways!

The Kiss.

He had just saved her from a fire in her house, rescuing her by carrying her out of the house into her front yard, while he continued to fight the fire. She is pregnant.

When he finally got done putting the fire out, he sat down to catch his breath and rest.

A photographer from the Charlotte, North Carolina, newspaper, "The Observer," noticed her in the distance looking at the fireman.

He saw her walking straight toward the fireman and wondered what she was going to do.

As he raised his camera, she came up to the tired man who had saved her life and the lives of her babies and kissed him just as the photographer snapped this photograph.



BUSINESS LISTINGS

VETERINARIANS AND ANIMAL HOSPITALS

Maplewood Animal Hospital
 David Rabkin, D.V.M.
 2869 West Maplewood Avenue
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Office: (360) 715-1430

OTHER SERVICES

KC Coonc, Realtor
 Fairhaven Realty
 1100 11th St.
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Office: (360) 676-8990
 Cell: (360) 305-9977
 Email: kc@fairhavenrealty.com
www.realestatebykc.com

BELLINGHAM OFF LEASH AREAS

For a complete listing and directions visit our website www.gratefuldogs.org.

Arroyo Park: All trails.

Lake Padden Park: South on Samish Way, take the South entrance to the Park, go to the end of the road, parking is on the left.

Sunset Pond and Bug Lake: All trails, plus the water is designated for water exercise and training area.

Whatcom Falls Park: All trails across Whatcom Creek stone bridge north of the creek.

Post Point Treatment Area: The field, trails and the lagoon water designated area adjacent to the treatment facility are open for dog training and exercise.

Sehome Hill Arboretum: All secondary trails. Dogs must be on leashes on all paved trails plus the Jersey Street and Arboretum Walkway.

Little Squalicum Park: All trails, plus the water, are designated for water exercise and training area.

Bloedel Donovan Park: The park is designated as an off-leash area from November 1 to May 1, from 6am-10am.

Tennant Lake Wetlands Trail: Trails through marsh, meadow and forest include a one-mile boardwalk loop, a dike trail along the Nooksack River (follow road behind center) and a half-mile trail to Hovander Homestead Park.