



Animal Magnetism

e-news from Multnomah County Animal Services

July 2009

Welcome to e-news from Multnomah County Animal Services!

Why an e-newsletter? We invite you to get to know us better. The more you know, the more you can play a role in helping your community's pets!

In Portland and Multnomah County we pride ourselves on being a pet-friendly community. Pets are our companions, members of the family, and part of the neighborhood. Because of our love for companion animals, we share a community responsibility to protect pets and people. To rescue animals in need. Care for the lost and homeless animals. Safeguard the community from animal-related health and safety incidents.

Our goal with the *Animal Magnetism e-newsletter* is to tell untold stories of the extraordinary things happening every day at MCAS. It is a commitment to inform you about services available, the unmet needs of animals, success stories, and how we can work together to create a safe, healthy, humane, and livable community for people-- and our pets.

PETA + Vegan = Animal Control Officer?



Editor's Note: You may be surprised by some of the people on staff at Multnomah County Animal Services (MCAS).

By M. Rose, MCAS Field Officer

Entering the Animal Control field, I had little idea what to expect. I grew up the son of a mom who got PETA newsletters back when no one had ever heard of that organization.

"Animal Control" is not an endearing term. To me, it has always evoked the image of someone - the proverbial dogcatcher perhaps - attempting to "control" dogs, and I had a difficult time seeing myself in that role. Years prior to taking this job, I became a vegan, due to my concern for the manner in which animals are treated in our society. I've had a PETA membership for fifteen years. Could a vegan, card-carrying member of PETA really be an animal control officer?

You'll be happy to know that it's worked out just fine. I'm incredibly happy in my job, because I have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of animals and people every day. At Multnomah County Animal Services, we investigate cruelty and neglect complaints, and enforce the laws accordingly. Do we chase dogs? Sometimes, such as when we respond to injured and abandoned animals. Most importantly, we have an ethic that animal welfare in the community is our highest priority.

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[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS!



2nd Annual

Animal House Adoption Party

An all-day, 11 until MIDNIGHT adoption event at the shelter.

Dogs - \$80
 Cats/kittens - \$50

Friday, July 31st

Live music, hourly raffles, food, face-painting for kids, and of course, TOGAS!

Come meet John and Dana from K103 from 11 am to 1 pm!

Quick Links
[Check out our ADOPTABLE PETS](#)
[Contact us!](#)
[Our Twitter Page!](#)

It's Kitten Season!



By Dr. Meghan Romney
MCAS Veterinarian

Summer is finally here! That means more sunshine, more flowers, and more... KITTENS! That's right, it's "kitten season." Female cats come into heat as the days get longer, so most kittens are born in the spring and summer. And while there are few things

cuter than fluffy, snuggly little kittens, the number of cats and kittens in shelters usually far exceeds the number of people coming to adopt them. Last year, [Multnomah County Animal Services](#) cared for more than 5,000 cats at the shelter.

We work with other shelters such as [Cat Adoption Team](#) to transfer as many cats for adoption as possible. But even with the help of other shelters, there are too many cats and not enough homes. The long-term solution to our cat overpopulation problem requires our community to spay and neuter more cats. So we have begun partnering with other agencies like the [Oregon Spay Neuter Fund](#) to offer spay/neuter services to low-income Multnomah County residents. Every cat spayed saves the life of another!

American Eskimo dogs up for adoption!



In early June, the big news was the seizure of nearly 400 American Eskimo dogs and pups from a puppy mill in Kennewick, WA.

MCAS sent two staff members on the 4 1/2 hour drive to rescue a dozen "Eskies" and bring them back to the shelter for care. All the Eskies

were seriously lacking proper care and had little contact with humans. Our vet team nursed the dogs back to good health. Our behavior staff began a program to teach the dogs to trust humans.

Although the Eskies are still receiving special care to overcome their fear of people, several are now available for adoption. They are waiting for that patient adopter who will help them adjust to their new lives and a new family. If you have a big heart and the willingness to give these dogs a caring home and new hope, please come by the shelter today! (in photo, [Dita](#), animal number 497495)

In future issues of the Animal Magnetism e-newsletter, we will introduce you to our dedicated MCAS staff and volunteers. Every day animals are rescued, cared for and reunited with their owners. You will hear more about amazing 24-hour emergency rescue calls. Learn about medical cases in our accredited veterinary hospital. And, pick up tips on animal behavior. All part of the daily life-saving activities at MCAS. Who knew?

Sincerely,
Mike Oswald, Director

What can YOU do to help?

***Spay or neuter your cats!** Female cats can become pregnant when they are as young as **five months old**.

***Volunteer!** Help train shelter dogs and cats or become a foster pet parent.

***Donate!** Help sheter pets by donating food and blankets.

***Adopt a shelter pet!** Visit us, or check out all of our wonderful [cats](#) and [dogs](#) on our website at www.MultCoPets.org

Shelter Fact:
If you did our laundry in your home, you would have to do 46.5 loads a day!

Multnomah Animal Services

**Save
\$5**

Mention this e-newsletter and save an additional \$5 on adoption fees through July 31st, 2009. Better yet, come to our Animal House Adoption (Toga) Party on July 31st, and save this \$5 in addition to the already discounted one-day special adoption fees of \$80 for dogs and \$50 for all cats (including kittens).

Offer Expires: July 31, 2009

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