



Saint John SPCA

Covering the Greater Saint John Area

Newsletter

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Our Mandate

The Saint John SPCA is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to the welfare of animals. The SPCA advocates kindness to all animals and works with the police, government departments, and other groups to promote and educate people about animal welfare issues. Our vision is that animals will be protected from abuse and indifference.

www.saintjohnspca.com

sjspca@gmail.com

**To report a case of cruelty, abuse,
or abandonment - (506) 333-2082**

For information - (506) 693-8730

**c/o 190 King Street East
Saint John, NB
E2L 1H1**

Saint John SPCA and the Saint John Animal Rescue League — Working Together

"Animal Rescue League ... SPCA. They are the same thing, aren't they?" That is a very common misconception - one that representatives of both organizations have to face and try to reverse. That is what this article will try to do.

First, both organizations share the same objective - to help and protect animals in need. They are all about animals. They recognize and value the contribution that animals make to greatly enrich human life. They believe that all animals have the right to be treated with respect as living beings. To accomplish this, both organizations promote responsible ownership, most notably spaying and neutering to curb overpopulation. Both organizations provide the public with information on animal care and

issues important to animal welfare. This is undertaken through their respective web sites and community outreach programs.

The Animal Rescue League (www.saintjohnanimalrescue.com) contracts with the City of Saint John to provide Animal Control services. They also take in pets that are no longer wanted by their owners. But most people know them for their shelter, located on Taylor Avenue. Most of the stray and unwanted animals end up at the Shelter. There, they are housed in temporary quarters, cared for by a myriad of kind and caring staff and volunteers, until they find a new permanent home. In addition, the ARL also offers a

(See "Working Together" on page 4)

New Brunswick SPCA Celebrating 125 Years of Animal Welfare

This year, the New Brunswick SPCA is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On Friday, 25 March, 1881, a Bill to create an Act to incorporate the New Brunswick Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was given Third Reading, then Passed.

It was the concerns of good-hearted citizens of the day that brought the organization into being.

One of the first projects of the fledgling organization, led by then-President John Sears, was to provide a public drinking fountain for the

animals. The Society undertook a subscription campaign to raise the necessary funds for the fountain, and in 1882, William Macara Sears presented the City of Saint John with a beautiful granite drinking fountain for the animals. This was his last public act, as he died the following day at the age of 32.

125 years after its founding, October 12, 2006, was declared SPCA Day in Saint John, and the SPCA flag flew proudly over City Hall.



Start a Chain Reaction



Life Sentence – No Parole

“Imagine being locked in a room with no TV to watch, no radio to listen to, and no computer to use. You have no newspapers or books to read, and you don’t have a telephone. You get no exercise because you are never permitted to leave your small room, so all you can do is pace the perimeter.

Once or twice a day, someone comes to your door and leaves a tray of food and water for you (if you’re lucky), and luckier still if that person spends five minutes talking to you.

During your long years of imprisonment, you will rarely, if ever, get the chance to bathe, and you must sleep only inches from where you go to the bathroom, which is never cleaned up, only trodden down from your constant pacing.

The only source of entertainment you have is to look out of your window and watch the world go by.

Unfortunately, this is the sad and daily existence of thousands of dogs in Saint John and surrounding areas that are chained or penned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, in backyards, for their entire lives, all but forgotten by their owners.”

-- Christine Ameduri, Dogs Deserve Better

Across North America, communities are taking action to limit the number of hours a dog can be tied up outside. Municipalities in more than half of the 50 states in the USA now have “chained dog” laws, and Vancouver has recently passed by-laws regarding the chaining of dogs. However, New Brunswick dogs do not enjoy this kind of protection. While the provincial SPCA Act requires owners to provide adequate food, water, shelter, and care, nothing in the Act protects dogs from being kept outdoors on a chain.

Dogs Deserve Better is a non-profit organization dedicated to freeing the chained dog and bringing our “best friend” into the home and family. For more information, check out their web site at:

<http://www.dogsdeservebetter.org>

What can you do?

Bring your dog inside! Dogs get bored and lonely sitting on the same patch of packed dirt day after day, month after month, year after year. Dogs want to be inside with their pack - their human family.

Call your local SPCA or police department if you see a dog who is consistently without food, water, or shelter; sick or infested with parasites; or too skinny.

Spaying or neutering your dog will help him or her to calm and stay closer to home. A sterilized dog won’t try to escape to find a mate. Sterilization is healthy for your dog—it reduces his or her risk of contracting certain types of cancers.

Replace ill-fitting or old collars with a new nylon collar. You should be able to easily fit two fingers between the dog’s neck and the collar.

Provide food and fresh water EVERY day. Every day that you eat, your dog needs to eat too. You can place a water bowl inside a tire or a hollow in the ground to keep it from tipping. You can also attach a water bucket to a wooden doghouse or fence. Stretch wire, a small chain, bungee cord, or twine across the bucket and secure it on either side of the bucket.

Give toys to your dog. Dogs need the mental stimulation provided by toys. Even a ball or knotted towel can provide hours of entertainment. Toss toys over the fence if the dog belongs to someone else.

Take your dog for walks! It will mean the world to your dog to be able to get out of the yard, see new things, and smell new smells. Walking a dog is great exercise for both you and the dog.

Take your dog to school! Obedience training can solve behaviour problems and help the dog learn how to be a good “indoor” dog.

Give your dog regular flea treatments, heartworm preventative, and an annual worming. Parasite infestations can often cause behavioural problems.

Winter's Here -- Don't Be Left Out in the Cold When It Comes to Your Pet's Safety

When it's cold outside, extra precautions are required to ensure your pet's well-being. Follow these tips to keep your pet warm and cozy during these chilly months.

The outdoor factor

- Cats can get frostbite, and many seek warmth by crawling into car engines, which can be dangerous or fatal. Cats should be kept indoors year-round.
- Dogs also should be kept inside if possible. If kept outside, they should have a draft-free shelter large enough to stand and turn around in, yet small enough to retain body heat. Use a layer of straw or other bedding material to help insulate your pet against the cold. Different breeds of dogs have different sheltering needs. Purchase a commercially produced doghouse, or contact your local humane society for construction plans for a doghouse suitable for your climate. Please be sure to contact your veterinarian if you have questions.
- After letting your pet out to relieve herself, be sure to wipe her paws when she comes back inside. Tender pads can be injured from salts and other ice-melting chemicals. These products can be irritating to skin and

mouth. Signs of ingestion include excessive drooling, vomiting, and depression.

- Outdoor animals typically need more calories in the winter. This allows their body to produce body heat. Increase the amount you feed your pet if she is allowed to go outside. Indoor-only animals may actually need fewer calories to avoid weight gain.

Watch what your pet ingests

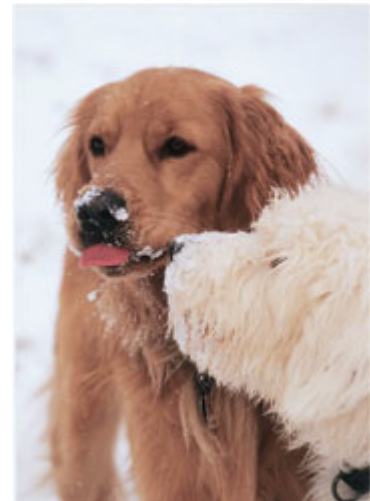
- Batteries contain corrosives that, if bitten or swallowed, can cause ulceration in your pet's mouth, tongue, and gastrointestinal tract.
- Antifreeze is deadly to pets. The sweet taste is irresistible to animals kept in the garage in colder months. Look for "safe" non-toxic antifreeze and make sure all spills are cleaned immediately and thoroughly. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your pet may have ingested any antifreeze!
- Winter typically is the cold and flu season. Medications as basic as aspirin can be harmful and dangerous to pets. Do not medicate your animal yourself unless under the direction of your veterinarian. Keep all prescriptions

and over-the-counter drugs out of animals reach.

- Rat and mouse killers are used more frequently during the winter months. Place these products in areas that are inaccessible to your pet.

If you suspect your pet has gotten into a potentially poisonous substance, call your veterinarian immediately! Have the telephone number to your local emergency animal hospital readily available.

-- American Humane Society



Pets as Presents

The holidays are a popular time for welcoming a new furry friend into your family. There may not be a greater gift for homeless animals than to open your heart and home to them. As they do year-round, animal shelters have thousands of wonderful companions available for adoption. But, whether you are considering a new friend for you or someone else,

remember that choosing an animal is a big decision.

Instead of bringing home an animal right away, consider putting together and wrapping an Adoption Kit for under the tree. Fill a box with toys, a bed, a leash, a collar, food, treats, and a gift certificate for adoption fees at your local shelter. Then, make an

event of visiting the shelter to find your next best friend!

Remember, millions of homeless animals wait for a home each year! Give the gift of life this year and choose to adopt!

--American Humane Society

Working Together (cont ...)

missing pet web site service, owner-requested humane euthanasia and cremation services, a seniors program, information sessions in schools, and public tours.

The Saint John SPCA does not operate a shelter. Instead, its emphasis is on preventing the mistreatment and abuse of animals. The chief service it provides is its Cruelty Inspection Program. This Program has a single purpose--to prevent the needless suffering of animals as a result of improper care, irresponsible ownership, and abuse in general. The Society has a group of highly

committed and skilled Inspectors and Animal Protection Officers. These Inspectors respond to all complaints of cruelty, abuse, abandonment, and neglect of animals. The Saint John SPCA also designates "Animal Welfare Ambassadors", who visit schools to educate young people on how to properly care for animals.

To sum it all up, both the ARL and the Saint John SPCA exist to help the animals. But unfortunately, there is more work than can be done by one organization. Working together, they hope to do all they can to do just that - help the animals.

Animal cruelty is a reality. To be the voice of those who cannot speak for themselves, please call our Inspectors at (506) 333-2082. An animal is only a phone call away from living a cruelty-free life.



OUR MEMBERS ARE OUR LIFELINE



By becoming a member of the Saint John SPCA, you are not only becoming an essential part of our organization, you are becoming a vital part of the community. A membership costs only \$10, and publicly affirms your support for our work. Members receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter and voting rights at our Annual General Meeting. Your membership and donation are a valuable contribution to the work that we do on behalf of the animals.

Complete the form below and mail it to:

c/o 190 King Street East
Saint John, NB
E2L 1H1

Yes, I want to support the work of the Saint John SPCA:

- I wish to become a member of the Society. I have enclosed \$10.
 I have enclosed an additional amount of \$_____ to assist the Society in its work.
(Tax receipt issued upon request.)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

- I would like to become an active member of the Society. Please contact me with more information on how I can help.