

Action for Homeless Companion Animals:



An overview of the





What is NYSAPF

- Statewide organization, founded in 2010, that represents all the animal shelters across New York
 - Municipal
 - Humane Societies
 - SPCAs
 - Animal Protective organizations
- In the last few years, rescues have also joined
- As a 501C4, educates, advocates and lobbies
 - NYS Legislature, Executive Chamber and Dept. of Agriculture and Markets

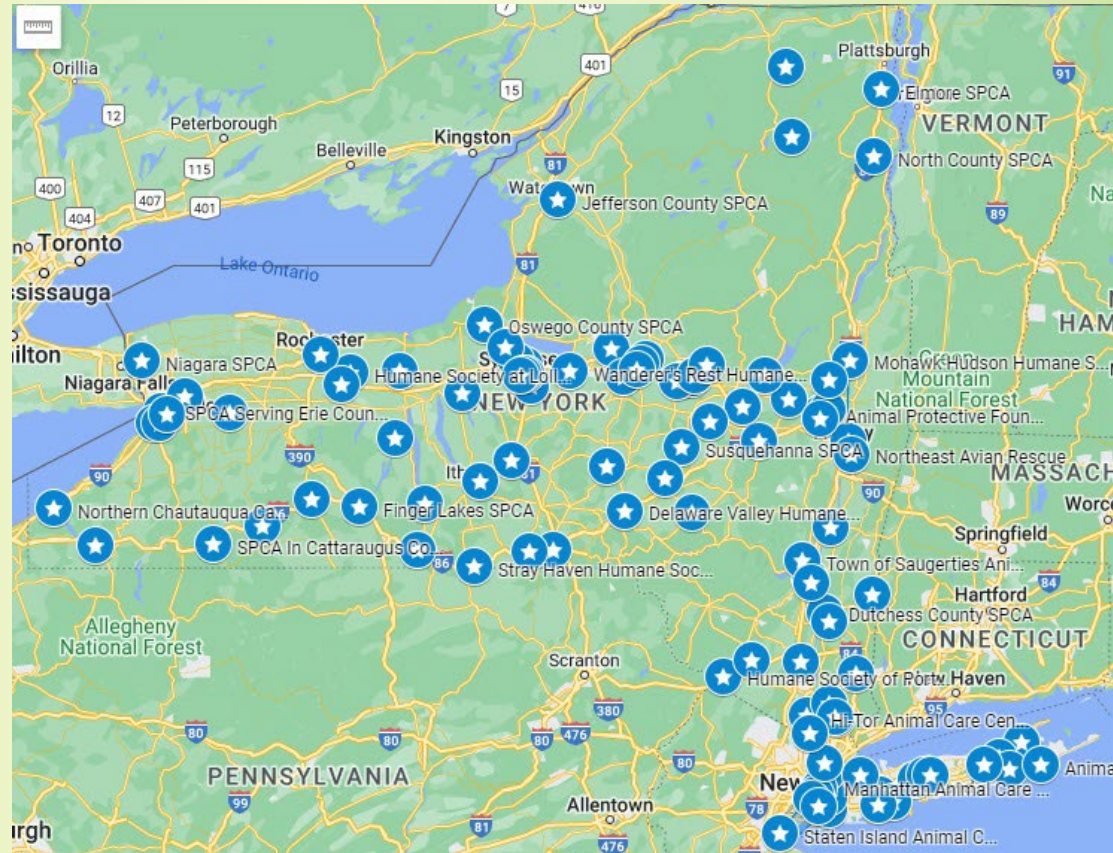


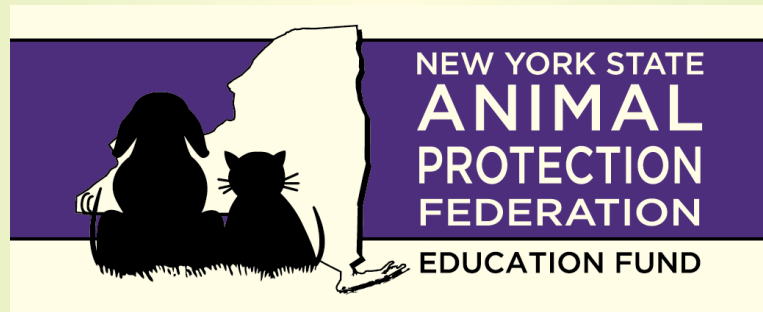


NYSAPF Membership

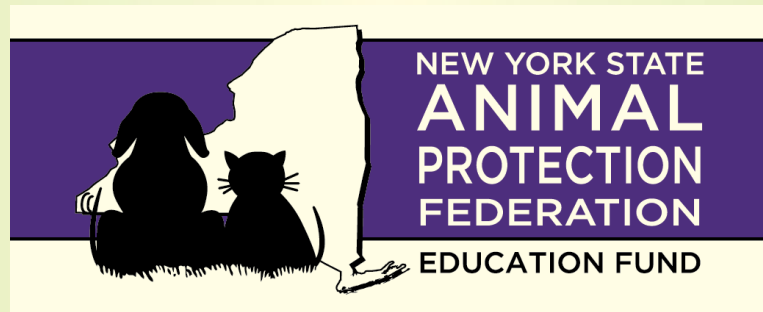
110 members across
the state

National organizations,
Humane Societies,
SPCAs, Municipal
Shelters and Animal
Welfare Organizations





- 501C3 non-profit, tax-deductible arm of the Fed
- Companion Animal Care Standards Act consulting
- Low-cost grant writers to assist Fed members with their Companion Animal Capital Fund applications and process management
- Shelter consulting to be ready for major capital projects and to enhance policies and procedures
- Board development and philanthropy training



- Received \$146,000 in grants from Weiderhold Foundation and the NY Community Trust to provide no cost/low cost consulting for shelters and rescues to meet the new care standards
- Expecting another \$200,000 to work with an additional 40 organizations
 - Team of 6 animal welfare professionals
 - Worked with 20 orgs across NYS
 - Bill impacts shelters and rescues





- Championed by the Fed
- \$28M invested in shelter capital projects since 2018
- Administered by the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets
- Must be in the NYS Grants Gateway
 - Most municipalities already are and will need to transition to the Statewide Financial System
 - Gateway shuts down 1/10-1/16
 - SFS after 1/16



- Present RFP for FY23-24 funding is due Jan. 29, 2024
- Eligible expenses:
 - Direct costs related to the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, installation, acquisition, or expansion of buildings, equipment, or facilities necessary for the secure containment, health, and adequate care of sheltered dogs and cats
 - Labor performed by outside employees (contractors, etc.)
 - Labor performed by municipal employees
 - Project oversight by shelter management



- Eligible expenses
 - HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) system
 - Medical equipment or facilities used exclusively for sheltered dogs and cats
- Ineligible expenses
 - Medical equipment or facilities used for community or outpatient services
 - Labor performed by shelter employees, volunteers, or management – unless performed by municipal employees



- Ineligible expenses
 - **The purchase of land**
 - **Architect and/or design fees**
 - Archeological study on land to be used for a facility
 - Blacktopping a driveway
 - Vehicles



- Eligibility

- All non-profit and municipal animal shelters, humane societies, SPCAs, animal protective associations and non-residence based rescues

- Grant Amounts

- For Upstate and Long Island:
 - If only serving one municipality, \$50,000 to \$200,000
 - If serving two or more municipalities, \$100,000 to \$500,000
- New York City
 - \$100,000-\$500,000



- Municipal/Organizational Match
 - 10% across the board
 - This is new—previously it was 25% to 50% based on grant award
- Grants are for part of projects, not the whole project
 - \$500,000: HVAC, Kennels, Cat Condos, etc.
 - Not \$7M for the entire project





- Association of Shelter Veterinarian 2010 standards
 - The grant is written to these standards
 - Available at: nysapf.org/asv-guidelines
 - Only thing on the page
 - Grant writers must become proficient in these standards



Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters

The Association of Shelter Veterinarians • 2010

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- Match lowered to 10% and non-residence based rescues included because of the passage of the Companion Animal Care Standards Act for Shelters and Rescues
- The CACF can help shelters and rescues make the capital changes needed to meet the standards
- And, what exactly are the standards? Glad you asked!



Overview of the Companion Animal Care Standards Act

- Raises the standard of care for homeless companion animals at shelters and rescues across NYS
 - Passed unanimously in both houses
- Shelters and rescues will be overseen and inspected
- Covers all aspects from vet care and behavior to transport and physical plants





Overview of the Companion Animal Care Standards Act

- All entities will be licensed as animal shelters
- Takes effect in December 2025
 - Specifically waited 3 years to help orgs make changes needed to meet the standards
- **Companion Animal Capital Fund:**
 - Open to all shelters and non-residence based rescues
 - 10% match across the board
 - \$5M for 2023 budget
 - Looking at increased funding in 2024





Overview of the Companion Animal Care Standards Act

- Definitions
- Licensing and inspection
- Training
- Recordkeeping and protocols
- Facility standards
- Housing
- Sanitation
- Shelter Management
- Husbandry
- Veterinary Care
- Behavior
- Transportation
- Foster care providers
- Violations

Written to the Association of Shelter Vet 2010 Standards

www.nysapf.org



NEW YORK STATE
**ANIMAL
PROTECTION
FEDERATION**



Definitions

- Details specifically what the various terms means
- Adoption means the transfer of legal ownership
- Adult means a dog or cat 5 months or older
- Animals means a dog or a cat
- Animal shelter means a public or not for profit entity owning, operating or otherwise maintaining a building, structure, or facility including a personal residence





Licensing

- All shelters and rescues will be licensed as an animal shelter
- Will supplant the registration you do now
- Must prove you're not a pet dealer
- Must provide proof of incorporation as a nonprofit
- All disclosures you currently make under registration law will be transferred to new law
- \$150 annual fee





Training Requirements

- All staff and volunteers with direct animal care responsibilities must receive training
 - Within 60 days of employment or volunteer designation
 - Annually after that
 - Documentation of training must be maintained for at least three years
- Can be webinars, on-site lectures or seminars, off-site conferences





Record Keeping & Protocols

- Create and maintain a record for each animal in your custody for at least three years
 - Unique identifiers
 - Name and address of person surrendering animal or from whom the animal is seized
 - Date of intake and departure/adoption
 - Status of animal—redeemed by owner, adopted, died, humanely euthanized
 - Behavioral history, if available, including bite history and rabies vaccination
 - All vet and behavioral exams





Facility Standards

- Indoor surfaces must be non-porous, water resistant, non-toxic and able to withstand regular cleaning and disinfection
- Must have electrical power and running water at all times
 - Written emergency plans if either go out for more than 4 hours
- Readily accessible sinks
 - Single service soap and towels or electric hand dryers





Facility Standards

- Temperature maintained between 60 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit
- Each animal monitored to make sure they are in an environment that allows normal body temp
- Document regular maintenance of air handling system
- Ammonia levels kept at less than two parts per million





Facility Standards

- Separate housing areas for each species
- Sick animals are to be kept segregated in isolation rooms
- Sound levels should not exceed 85 decibels
 - Use a decibel meter minimally once/week
- Adequate lighting and a means to maintain diurnal light cycles
 - Eight hours each of light and darkness within a 24-hour period





Facility Standards

- Animal populations shall be segregated
 - Cats and dogs in separate rooms with efforts to minimize cats' exposure to barking dogs
 - Same species separated by age group (neonates, juveniles and adults) except nursing moms may be housed with offspring
 - Animals with known infectious diseases must be isolated
 - Segregation isn't mandated when animals are in medical care, pre- or post-op





Facility Standards

- Dogs and cats within a week of giving birth or until separation from offspring shall be provided with a box
 - Solid floor
 - Can lie fully stretched out on its side
 - Ability for all offspring to nurse
 - Large enough to allow the mom to leave the box





Facility Standards

- Primary enclosures shall provide sufficient space to allow all animals to
 - Make all normal postural adjustments
 - Fully stretch its body and have space to circle, lie down and stand upright without its head or tail touching the sides of the enclosure even with the presence of water and food bowls, beds, litter boxes and normal cage objects
 - Space for animals to sit, sleep and eat away from area where they eliminate





Facility Standards

- If a primary enclosure has two or more animals
 - Sufficient space to maintain social distance
 - Adequate area for hiding, resting, feeding and eliminating with sufficient space to separate the areas
- Regardless of size of room or enclosure, the number of animals co-housed shall not exceed
 - 12 adult cats
 - Two litters of kittens (10 in total)
 - Five adult dogs
 - One litter of puppies





Facility Standards

- Puppies and kittens less than 16 weeks must be housed with their moms, with fosters or surrogate moms
- Animals shall not be housed outdoors for more than 12 hours within a 24-hour period, with the exception of free roaming cats under the care of the shelter
- Outside primary enclosures must also comply with standards as detailed in the bill





Facility Standards

- If an animal is at the shelter for 14 days or longer, must provide alternative housing in one of the following:
 - Enriched cages at least twice the size otherwise required for the animal's size
 - Foster care
 - Congregate housing





Sanitation

- Establish and maintain protocols that include:
 - Use of one or more agents that are effective in a shelter environment
 - Removing animals from enclosures during cleaning
 - Dedicated equipment in each area for each species
 - Cleaning and disinfecting items and surfaces that come into contact with animals such as food and water bowls, litter boxes, etc.
 - Cleaning and disinfecting enclosures before a new animal enters





Sanitation

- Daily cleaning and at least once-a-week disinfecting of enclosures housing same animal or animals during a long-term stay
- Laundering all animal bedding in a washing machine with detergent and thoroughly dried
- Cleaning outdoor premises from clutter, remove fecal matter at least once daily
- Appropriate use and disposal of protective garments





Shelter Management Protocols

- Clear, written, management structure that defines staff authority, reporting structure and responsibilities
 - Readily accessible to all staff and volunteers
- Sufficient staffing to allow adequate time, per animal, for cleaning and feeding, and to meet minimum socialization and exercise requirements for animals in their care





Animal Husbandry

- Fresh potable water at all times
- Feed a complete and nutritionally balanced, species specific and life-stage appropriate diet
- Feed at least once daily for adults, at least twice daily for animals less than six months, at least three times daily for animals less than two months
- Refrigerate perishable food





Animal Husbandry

- Under the orders of a veterinarian, frightened animals may be appropriately tranquilized
- No physical force as punishment
- Restrain devices and handling techniques shall minimize animal stress and risk of injury to animal and shelter workers, if necessary
- Maintain all equipment in good working order





Veterinary Care

- Prescription medications and treatments shall be administered under the supervision/advisement of a veterinarian
- All drugs documented and dispensed in accordance with local, state and federal laws and regulations
- All incoming animals assessed within two hours after intake by trained shelter staff
- Provide veterinary assessment and humane care in a timely fashion either in-house or off-site





Veterinary Care

- Treat acute and chronic pain
 - Legal status of animal shall not prevent treatment to relieve suffering
- Complete physical exam by trained shelter staff within 24 hours of intake
- Core and rabies vaccines
- Treat for hookworms and roundworms prior to release or placement in foster care





Veterinary Care

- Shelter must provide regular grooming
- No animal can be adopted unless it is spayed or neutered
- A permanent tattoo on ventral abdomen of spayed animal
- Shelters must provide adopters with instructions (written and verbal) for 10-day post operative care of recently S/N animals





Transportation

- Origin shelter shall examine each dog and cat for medical or behavioral concerns within 24 hours prior to transport
 - Everything recorded and communicated to all parties involved
- Health record for each animal
- Health certificate for each animal signed by a vet
- Each animal identified with a collar, tag, tattoo, microchip or combination of such identifiers





Transportation

- Vehicles and operators shall adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws
- No animal shall be placed unconfined or untethered in the back of an open pick up or flatbed truck
- All animals must be confined in an enclosure such as a crate, carrier or cage within the vehicle
- Vehicles shall have adequate space, comfortable environmental conditions and good air quality





Transportation

- No animal shelter or its agency shall transport any dog or cat less than one year of age whose point of origin is any breeder licensed by the US Department of Agriculture
 - One more way to shut down the puppy mill pipeline into NYS





Foster Care Providers

- No person may operate as a foster care provider without having a signed written agreement with a shelter
 - Operate as a foster care provider with the approval and responsibility of shelter
- Copy of agreement kept at shelter and foster and made available for inspection if asked by the Commissioner of the DAM





Foster Care Providers

- Do not own the animal; shelter facilitates adoption
- Shall keep a copy and maintain record of animal
- To protect the identity of the source of the animal (usually a domestic violence situation), shelter can provide limited information on owner
- Any foster animal affected by an infectious or contagious disease shall be handled in the manner that prevents spread





Thank You and Questions?

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