

What's Happening at the Shelter?

Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri 12-5 PM, Thurs 12-7 PM, Sat 11-4 PM

Cats! Cats! Cats! We've got cats here!

Need a cat? Wish you could find one that has been vaccinated, microchipped, and maybe even spayed or neutered? You're not gonna believe this deal!

WE CAN GET YOU INTO A BRAND NEW OR PRE-LOVED CAT TODAY FOR JUST:

\$5 for adults
\$10 for black kittens
\$25 all other kittens

Cat Intake Increases in Summer Months

Shelters across the country see a huge increase in their stray cat populations throughout the summer months. Cats can have kittens three times during one breeding season!

This leaves many shelters struggling to find homes for all their furry friends. We are offering this special deal for a limited time to help make room for all the new cats!



**Humane Society
of Whitley County, Inc.**
www.hswc.org

Upcoming Events

Our 17th Annual Live and Silent Auction will be held Saturday, November 14th from 4:30 PM to ? The live auction starts at 6:00 PM. Come on out for all you can eat chili, cornbread, and dessert! There will be a cash bar as well as a live DJ. Tickets are just \$8.00 and may be purchased at the door or at WCHS during normal business hours.

Can't make it to the shelter during our business hours to adopt? Have no fear, an off site adoption spot is here! We now have kitties available at the Petsmart location in Warsaw! The cats there have been spayed or neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated including rabies. They can be yours for the low low price of \$20.

Don't forget to visit the Kroger website to register your Kroger card with their community rewards program. Participation in the program will not affect your rewards points at all and it is a huge help for the animals in our care.

The Peabody Public Library will be hosting a "Forgive the Fine" event to collect items for our animals on September 30th.

Kid's night will be October 12 from 6-7 PM. A representative from Conley - Koontz Equine Hospital will be our highly educational guest.

Our mission is to assure sanctuary for homeless animals and encourage responsible pet ownership

Summer Surge in Dog and Cat Populations

Summer is definitely the busiest season in our kennels. People and animals are enjoying time outdoors and unfortunately that leads to an increase in the populations in our shelter. While we love getting to meet all of the awesome animals that come through our doors, we also find that by September our everyday supplies are running low.

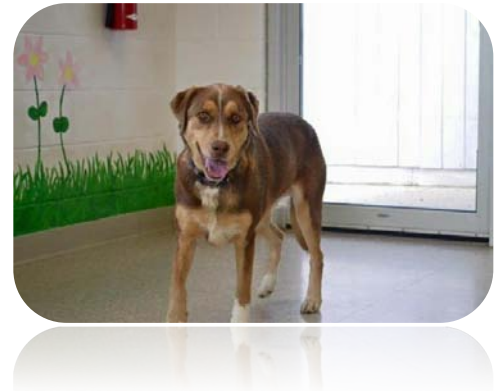
We find that we are currently in need of 13 gallon trash bags, KITTEN wet food, and hand sanitizer refills. Kittens are some of our most difficult customers and their teeny little tummies need food specially formulated for kittens to help them be as healthy as possible. The ground, Pate style food is easiest for them to eat. We greatly appreciate anything you could give!

Featured Furry Friends

ABOUT GABBY

My name is Gabby and I am a 4-year-old Australian Shepherd mix. I came into the shelter at the beginning of August and I am slowly but surely getting used to it here. I am a very nervous girl upon meeting new people or new situations but once you earn my trust I am just the sweetest. I love to go on walks and being outside too. I would love it if I could have a home with no small kids and was the only dog. I know this is a lot to ask for but if you are up to it I promise to be a great companion. I am just looking for a new forever home that is willing to work with my shyness and give me the unconditional love I deserve.

All of our dogs are up to date on vaccinations, given prescription strength wormer and flea preventative, heartworm tested and microchipped. All dogs are temperament tested prior to becoming available for adoption. Individual results of these tests are on file at the shelter



ABOUT KIMMIE (CAT SALE \$5)

Do you love gray cats? Then you will love me, KIMMIE! I have a gorgeous medium hair gray coat and a sweet face. I came to the shelter in May with my kittens. I was a hard-working mom, making sure my litter behaved and grew strong. Now they are on their own and I've been SPAYED. It's time for me to find my own life with a loving family. I have a friendly, playful personality and would love to spend time getting to know you. Please come and visit with me today!

All of our cats are up to date on vaccinations, given prescription strength wormer and flea preventative, Feline AIDS (FIV) and Feline Leukemia tested, and microchipped. All cats have had personality assessments done prior to becoming available for adoption.



A Special place in our Hearts

Ivory



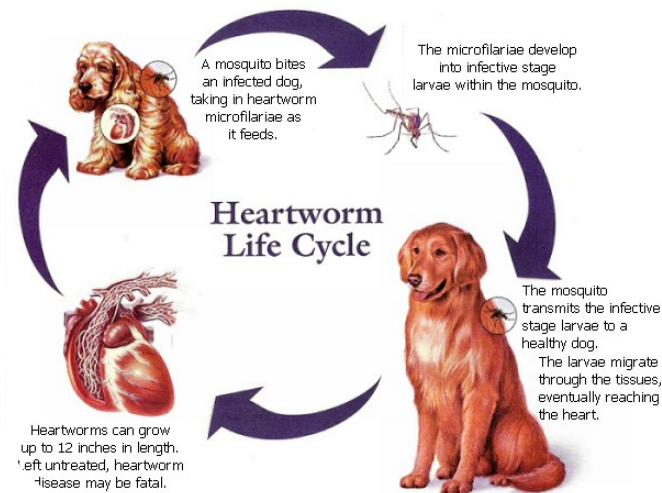
Heartworm
Positive

*Ivory will make a great addition to
any family.*

My name is Ivory and I am a 5 year old, spayed, Beagle mix. I am a very sweet girl who would make a great family pet and an amazing friend! I would do best in a home who has a fenced in yard! My family brought me here when they couldn't take care of me anymore and on top of all the stress of a new environment, I tested positive for heartworms.

The people here have taken such good care of me and I am undergoing my treatment right now. I will have to stay quiet for the next 30 days to keep me safe. If you would like to make a donation towards my treatment, I would greatly appreciate that! I have the sweetest personality and I am a perfect size too, so please come in and meet me so I can go home soon!

Donations for my care can be sent by check to 951 S. Line Street or through our website, www.hswc.org. Thank you!



Picture from
Spearfishanimalhospital.com

What is Heartworm and How do I prevent it?

From ASPCA.COM

What Is Heartworm?

A heartworm is a parasitic worm (*Dirofilaria immitis*) that lives in the heart and pulmonary arteries of an infected animal. The worms travel through the bloodstream—harming arteries and vital organs as they go—ultimately completing their journey to the vessels of the lung and the heart chamber about six months after the initial infection. Several hundred worms can live in one dog for five to seven years. Heartworm disease is serious, and can be fatal.

What Causes Heartworm?

Heartworms are transmitted from animal to animal by mosquitoes. The lifecycle of the heartworm is complex. An animal must carry at least two heartworms (a male and a female) in order for female heartworms to reproduce. Females produce babies, called "microfilariae," which are shed into an animal's bloodstream but are not capable of directly causing heartworm without first passing through a mosquito. The microfilariae must be taken up by biting mosquitoes, and transform into infective larvae over a two-week period inside the insect. When the mosquito next bites a susceptible animal, the infective larvae enter the tissues and begin a migration into the blood vessels.

Heartworms enter an animal's bloodstream as tiny, invisible larvae, but can reach lengths of more than twelve inches at maturity.

What Are the General Symptoms of Heartworm?

Symptoms of heartworm infestation can include labored breathing, coughing, vomiting, weight loss and listlessness, and fatigue after only moderate exercise. However, some dogs exhibit no symptoms at all until late stages of infection.

How Is Heartworm Diagnosed?

Heartworm disease is diagnosed by examination, radiographs or ultrasound, and a veterinarian-administered blood test. All dogs should be routinely screened with a blood test for heartworm either annually in spring, at the start of mosquito season, or before being placed on a new prescription for a heartworm preventive.

Which Dogs Are Prone to Heartworm?

Heartworm infestation can happen to any dog (as well as cats and some wild animals), but since mosquitoes are their carriers, dogs who live in hot, humid regions—conditions in which mosquitoes thrive—are at the greatest risk. The disease has been seen in every state except Alaska, but is most common in or on the East Coast, southern United States and Mississippi River Valley.

How Can Heartworm Be Prevented?

The good news is that heartworm is easy preventable with an inexpensive, chewable pill available with a vet's prescription. The pills—highly palatable to most dogs—are usually administered monthly and manufactured by several companies. The pills can be given to dogs under 6 months of age without a blood test, but older animals must be screened for the disease prior to starting medication. You can opt to give your dog a pill only during mosquito season (spring through first frost), but the most recent recommendation from the American Heartworm Society is to keep giving them all year—not only does this avoid errors, but many of the products also prevent other intestinal parasites. There are also topical products available that you can apply to the skin.

How Is Heartworm Treated?

After diagnosis, a thorough examination of the infected dog should be conducted to evaluate the best course of treatment and the potential risks involved. The most common course of treatment is a series of injections of drugs called adulticides into the dogs' muscle. This cure has a high success rate and usually requires hospitalization; in certain circumstances, however, it may be performed on an outpatient basis. However, all treatment protocols require several weeks of exercise restriction after treatment and are not without risk. Disease prevention is a much better and safer option. After treatment, your dog should be placed on a preventative medication to reduce the risk of infection.

When Is It Time to See the Vet?

If you notice that your dog's energy has decreased, she seems ill, or she's exhibiting any of the general symptoms described above, please contact your veterinarian immediately.

Why Adopt a Second Cat?

From Petfinder.com

DR. JILL GOLDMAN AND DR. PAM REID

There are benefits to having two cats, but they apply only when the two cats are well matched and have enough physical space to live together comfortably. One benefit is that the two cats provide each other with exercise, social interaction, and other forms of mental stimulation. Cats housed together have more opportunity to “be cats” by socializing and playing with each other, and this means they are less likely to be destructive or engage in other problematic behavior. For example, some single cats annoy their owners by trying to wake them during the night for play. Two cats might still wake the owner by tearing around the home, but at least the owner isn’t getting up out of bed to entertain the cat. Another benefit of two cats is that they are sometimes cleaner than a cat living by itself. Cats will groom each other’s ears and coat, often getting at places the cat can’t reach on its own!



Thinkstock

The positive impact of having multiple cats can be negated by “cohabitation anxiety” if the cats do not get along. Adult cats with a history of living alone are better off remaining solitary unless you can provide so much space that the cats essentially live alone in the same home. It’s also important to be aware that cats can take a LONG time to learn to like each other. Dogs usually decide to be friends, or not, within a few hours or days. Cats, on the other hand, can take as long as a year to stop squabbling and start hanging out together.

Individual cats differ in activity level and sociability, primarily because of age differences and previous experience and exposure to other cats. These differences must be considered when making a match. Kittens, adolescents, and young adults can satisfy each other’s need to play by engaging in stalk-chase and wrestling games. Other suitable matches include pairing a kitten with an experienced adult female, so the female can take on a “motherly” role, or pairing a “bratty” adolescent with an older, more experienced cat. In some cases, a calm mature adult with a history of maternal or social behavior can tolerate the inappropriate behavior of a younger cat with limited social skills, and in the process “teach” more socially acceptable behavior.

Space is an absolute necessity for multiple cat homes. The Waltham Centre for Pet Nutrition found that cats housed in groups are less likely to exhibit aggressive or anxious behavior when each cat has at least 1 m² of floor space and 2 m of vertical space, such as window sills and shelving. Providing access to an outdoor enclosure also significantly increases living space, except during the colder months when cats have little desire to be outside. Indoor cats do best with multiple sites for resting and hiding, so each cat can control how much it interacts with others. Cats need to have spots for hiding so they can be alone and undisturbed. Multiple litterboxes are also advisable so the cats can feel safe while eliminating.

The number of litter boxes should equal the number of cats you have, plus one. So, for example, if you have three cats, you need four boxes. And, of course, provide plenty of scratching posts and toys to keep everyone happy. Food and water can be placed in a common area, as cats seem to enjoy congregating to eat. However, if you have a particularly timid cat, you may need to provide extra rations in a secluded area.

Realize that multiple cats are not likely to be best buddies immediately. There are no guarantees and it’s always best to be super-cautious when introducing cats to each other. If you are adopting a cat that has already lived in a group at the shelter, consider adopting one of his/her friends. Introducing two friends to a new home can ease the transition, and you’ll be much more likely to have a successful merger.

Does Your Cat Have Tons of Extra Energy? These DIY Toys May Be The Answer

By: Holly Kimpel

We all know dogs need plenty of exercise but we don’t hear about exercising your cat quite as often. Believe it or not, excess energy in cats can lead to just as many troubles as it does in dogs! Providing mental stimulation on a regular basis can easily alleviate many common behavioral problems in cats. Luckily many common household items can be turned in to fun toys that will help your cat meet it’s natural need to hunt prey and expend energy.

According to the Humane Society of the United States, Playing with your cat for 10-15 minutes a couple times a day can help with unwanted behaviors like darting around the house in the middle of the night, play biting, and even inappropriate urination. A great time to play with your cat is before mealtime, this will help establish a healthy routine of play, eat, sleep. It can also be helpful to make sure your cat has a vertical surface to lie on, like a shelf or a perch in a window. Most importantly, make sure you are spending time engaging your cat in play instead of just tossing toys on the floor.

Milk Jug Jugglers

One of the simplest toys that are common in most households are simply the rings off of your milk jugs. Most cats go crazy batting those things around the house.

Aluminum Foil Balls

Simply wadding up a sheet of aluminum foil can be another great, inexpensive way to entertain a cat.

Cardboard Treat Tubes

An empty tube from the toilet paper or paper towels can provide hours of entertainment when filled with catnip and treats and pinched shut at the ends.

Fishing Pole Toy

Tying a string to a stick and attaching feathers or a cheap toy mouse can be one of the most effective ways to simulate prey chasing!

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Thank you!