



Andalusia Area Humane Society, Inc.

The Organization

Founded in April 1986 as PAWS (Public Animal Welfare Society), the organization changed its name to the Andalusia Area Humane Society (AAHS) in August 1987.

AAHS is a non-profit volunteer humane society. Our only funding is from memberships, fund-raisers, and donations. We provide compassionate care to animals in need. Our members visit local nursing homes to conduct pet therapy, provide an educational pet program for local schools, and present programs to local civic groups.

Meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Jones Veterinary Hospital located on Hwy 84 East in Andalusia.

Programs

AAHS members visit nursing homes to provide pet therapy to residents who express an interest in participating in the program. Members usually take one or two dogs that have been properly vaccinated and possess a friendly demeanor. The visits provide a socialization opportunity for the pets as well as meaningful therapeutic benefits for the residents.

AAHS members can present an educational pet program to children upon request. This program encourages students to be careful around strange animals, to respect animals and details the responsibilities of owning a pet.

Cruelty Cases

Cruelty to animals is not only inhumane, it is also illegal. Perpetrators who are convicted of animal cruelty may face criminal misdemeanor and/or felony charges in the state of Alabama.

AAHS works to help educate the public about laws regarding cruelty to animals. In addition, we assist people who witness animal cruelty to report the crime to local law enforcement agencies who must enforce the laws that protect animals. It is well-documented and proven that cruelty to animals is often an indication of serious mental illness, and those individuals also harbor a strong tendency to exhibit violent behavior and cruelty to people as well.

Promoting the Animal Shelter

The City of Andalusia operates an animal control unit through its police department. All animals that are picked up by the animal control officer are taken to the Andalusia Animal Shelter located on Hwy 84 West at the old fairgrounds (River Falls Street).

If someone is missing a pet or considering adopting a pet, the AAHS strongly encourages people to visit the local shelter. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. You can reach the shelter during those hours of operation by calling 222-8705.

Affiliations

Alabama Humane Federation (AHF)
Alabama Animal Control Association (AACCA)
Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
American Humane Association (AHA)
Andalusia Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Spay/Neuter Program

AAHS maintains an ongoing spay/neuter program that was created in an effort to help control the animal population in Covington County. AAHS offers assistance to help low income families spay or neuter their pets. Qualified applicants can have their pets fixed at a significantly reduced fee. They can also choose their own local veterinarian to perform the procedure.

Promoting the importance of spay/neuter procedures is a top priority for the AAHS. Hundreds of adoptable loving pets are euthanized every year in our local shelter because there simply are not enough homes for all of the animals. Countless other animals are abandoned to endure the elements and fend for themselves. It's a very sad situation that can only be improved by responsible pet owners who have their pets spayed and neutered. **It is a law in Alabama that all shelter animals must be spayed or neutered before their adoption is complete.**

Your Involvement is Needed

You can help animals in need by supporting the mission of the AAHS. While we depend heavily on monetary contributions, we are in desperate need of active volunteers who want to make a difference. There are several projects and programs that we would like to implement in the future, but we are limited by our very small group of active volunteers. Please consider becoming an active AAHS member. Someone has to take a stand and speak for our four-legged friends who can not speak for themselves. Our ancestors domesticated these animals centuries ago, and now they are our responsibility. Won't you help?

If you would like to speak to an AAHS member, please call Jennifer Lane at 488-5155, Patty Ramirez at 222-3218, or Patty Singleton-Seay at 427-3508.

