

May 04, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

Donations Accepted to Help Place Adoptable Pets

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department is now accepting public donations to help offset the fees animal rescue partners must pay to "pull" dogs and cats from the shelter and place them for adoption.

The initiative was announced today at a ceremony recognizing the work of these partner organizations during the last six months. Since late October, all potentially adoptable dogs impounded by the Health Department's Animal Control program have been sent to one of more than a dozen "no-kill" rescue partners for adoption. More than 650 dogs have been sent to rescue groups during that time. Many of these rescues have been working with Animal Control for several years.

Rescue agencies are required to pay an \$8 fee in order to pull an animal from the shelter. These fees help offset the cost of vaccinations for five common diseases, worm treatments and other care given to dogs and cats after they are taken in by Animal Control staff. These actions not only maintain a healthier environment for animals, but make them more adoptable, too.

The public can help make this happen and keep the momentum going – even if they cannot adopt. Anyone can donate \$8 (or more if desired) to help the rescues pull more animals. Donations can be made online. The process is simple and secure. **This money is placed in a separate account used only for this purpose, and does not fund any other Animal Control functions.**

The web address for donations is: <http://health.springfieldmo.gov/animalshelter>

For more information, contact: Mike Brothers, Public Information Administrator, (417) 874-1205.