



Pet Resource Guide



www.nfsaw.org



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Rehoming Your Pet

We understand that circumstances in life can sometimes mean that you may find yourself in need of finding a new home for your pet or the pet of a loved one. If you're in this situation, we'd like to encourage you to try and re-home your pet directly rather than bringing them to the shelter. This is often a much more calming and comforting way for ownership to change hands for the pet, and means that you are able to be fully involved in the process.

We're here to help and can recommend some key tips and tricks to make the process go quite smoothly. If however, you feel you've exhausted all your options, know that you can of course contact us to discuss your choices.



(203) 746-2925



nfsaw@att.net

Tips for Writing a Pet Description

One of the key components of rehoming a pet is sharing information with potential new families to help find a good match. It's tempting when writing these descriptions to share the details of why you are needing to find a new home for the pet, but remember that many people skim when reading long paragraphs and may find it more engaging to read about what to expect when living with this pet, what they enjoy, and the things that make them happy.

We recommend always being honest and forthcoming about your pet, but keeping the pet description largely positive is also important to encouraging interest.

Again, when we say keep it positive, we don't mean hiding the truth. But keep in mind that we all have different expectations of life with pets. A dog who chases or doesn't get along with cats may make a perfect pet for someone who is looking for a companion for their other dogs or a person with a cat allergy.

Some examples of keeping your language positive and matchmaking focused:

INSTEAD OF:

- Needs a lot of exercise
- Needs too much attention
- Isn't good with my kids
- Hates other animals

TRY THIS:

- Will make a great running partner
- Loves people / being by your side
- Needs the peace of a home without children
- Would prefer not to share a home with other pets / Would like to be your one-and-only

You can also use templates to help craft a pet description or bio for you pet if you need more guidance. Most prospective families want to know a bit about what to expect and what life will look like with this animal, so start there!

BIO-WRITING ROADMAPS

• *for fast and effective pet bios* •

The 'roadmap' approach makes writing accurate, engaging bios easier when time and resources are limited! Try these tailored sets, or mix n' match.

**FAST AND
SIMPLE**

MEET _____ !
HER/HIS FAVORITE THING IS _____
BUT HE'S/SHE'S NOT AS INTO _____
HE/SHE NEEDS _____
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO KNOW ABOUT
_____ IS _____

HELLO, I'M _____ !

MY FAVORITE THINGS ARE _____ & _____

BUT NO _____ FOR ME, THANKS

IF I WAS A DESSERT, I'D BE _____

MY PERFECT DAY IS _____

IF YOU LIKE _____ WE'D BE A GREAT TEAM!

**A LITTLE MORE
PLAYFUL**

HEARTS  SPEAK FIND MORE TIPS, TRICKS, AND INSPIRATION AT
HEARTSSPEAK.ORG

For more resources on writing pet descriptions, including fill-in-the-blank tools or other language suggestions, visit www.heartsspeak.org/edu & search "bio writing"

Other Tips for Matchmaking Success

A few other tricks to successful rehoming:

- Don't rule out potential new homes before you learn more. It can be tempting to put a lot of restrictions on what you think is the perfect new home for the pet, for instance "must have fenced yard" or "must work less than 40 hours per week". But consider that "perfect" may look different than you imagine: Someone without a fenced yard who walks the dog on a leash is arguably giving them more attention and exercise than letting them out the door into the yard. And someone who works 60 hours a week but splits their time between home and work, or hires a pet sitter, is still giving excellent attention
- Check your email regularly and use an email address you can view frequently. Rehoming websites will use that email to get in touch with you and allow potential new homes to ask questions, etc.

Tips for Great Photos

In addition to the pet description, photos are really important to catching the attention of someone who might want to adopt your pet. Photos (and video clips!) are a great way for the potential new caretaker to connect with the pet. Try for about 4 different images to show variety!

Here are some quick tips for taking better cell phone photos at home:



Get On Their Level + Fill Frame

Rather than stand and take a photo of a pet from above, crouch down so you're taking the photo more at eye level with them. Also try and be sure they are taking up most of the photo, rather than appearing as a small part of a larger photo. This helps more accurately show size and connect with their eyes.



Use Natural Light + Avoid Harsh Sun

Oftentimes people think that a clear, sunny day is perfect for pictures -- but it's actually the opposite! Sunny days make for harsh shadows and squinting, which even affects pets! Look for a shady spot or a cloudy day and your photos will be gorgeous. Using natural light like this is preferable to florescent overhead lights.(even when indoors, just try to position things so the window is behind you, the photographer).



Pay Attention to Background

To maximize connection and impact, try to take a photo without much clutter or distraction in the background -- we want the pet to be the star!



Shoot for Eye Contact

Use a funny noise, a treat, or toy --- held right over the lens of your camera -- to get a photo where the pet is looking at you and making eye contact.

Getting the Pet Ready for Rehoming

A healthy pet is easier to rehome so try and be sure that your pet is up to date on vaccines. If possible, reach out to your vet and ask for copies of your veterinary records to pass along to the new owners.

If your pet is not spayed/neutered, it's important to have that done before they are rehomed. You can see the "Medical Resources" section of this guide for more information on how and where to find low-cost options.

Getting the Word Out

There are a few options for posting your pet on websites that specialize in rehoming and offer specific platforms for simple, safe and free ways of transferring ownership to a new owner.

Rehome by Adoptapet.com

To list your pet on this site, visit rehome.adoptapet.com and create a profile. Not only does this site get seen by thousands of potential pet parents in your area, it also allows you to review applications for your pet and set up meetings with potential new families.

Home to Home

Home to Home is another platform that allows you to post your pet -- but you need a local shelter to be associated with the profile you create. Visit home-home.org and search by zip code to find a shelter near you -- and if your local shelter is not participating you can request that Home to Home onboard them so you can get started.

Rescue Me!

Rescue Me is a site that can help reach community members within 2 hours of you sharing your pets information. They email adopters in your area based on the breed of your pet and interest on their mailing list. Visit rescueme.org



Using Social Media

Once you post your pet on a rehoming site, you can then share the link to their profile on social media to help circulate it and get more eyes on them.

When you post on any social network to share your pet, try these quick tips for success:

- Tell a story. Sometimes a heartfelt story about your pet and your search for a safe place for them to land can help people understand your choice to rehome and help get the post shared to other potential adopters.
- Be descriptive. Use the same advice as you did when writing your pet description - be positive, share important basics (weight/size, age, preferences, etc).
- Choose your cutest / favorite photo. Grab attention and help show off their best side! Make sure it's a recent photo and accurately represents them
- Include your contact info or ask people to DM you. If there's a deadline for seeking the new home or other critical info share that too.

Facebook

On Facebook you can not only share a link to Rehome or Home to Home, you can also seek out facebook groups or local pet groups in your area to post about your pet. If you're a member of local community groups (church, social clubs, community service orgs) you can ask the admin of the group if you're allowed to post there as well.

Twitter or Instagram

If you're a regular user of either of these platforms, then definitely share your pet there and include hashtags like #rehome #adoptadog #adoptacat #petadoption as well as hashtags for your local area or neighborhood to make sure you're zeroing in on the right audience.

Nextdoor

Nextdoor is a neighborhood or community based social network so really helps ensure you're posting to folks nearby.



Other Networks & Community Connections

Consider other off-line connections you have to help get the word out. You never know who might be looking for a pet!

- Friends
- Family members
- Neighbors
- Co-workers
- Community contacts
 - School
 - Church, Synagogue, House of worship
 - Membership groups
 - Community-based organizations

You can also make flyers -- using the same basic information you used in your online pet description and a few great photos -- and post them in different locations around your community:

- Veterinarian
- Pet supply store
- Feed Store
- Coffee Shop
- Restaurants / Diners
- Work, school or other community bulletin boards

Recommended Resources

Facebook Groups

Connecticut Animal Shelters & Rescues Hub:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/952709604740765/>

Fairfield County CT, Animal Rescue:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/988614464591413/>



Problem Solving and Solution Building

We know it's not an easy decision to rehome your pet. And it's often a decision that a lot of thought has gone into. However, if you find yourself confronting one specific issue or another, consider the solution board below.

Rehoming Solutions

ISSUE

"I got a new job and there's no time for my pet"

"I can't afford my pet any longer because of extenuating circumstances." (Ex: job loss)

"My pet has health issues which I can't afford to manage."

"A sickness/injury is significantly preventing me from taking care of my dog"

"My pet is not getting along with the other pets in the home / showing signs of agitation."

"My pet has separation anxiety, or his energy is a mismatch for us"

POTENTIAL SOLUTION

Have you considered a doggy day-care or a dog walker?

Have you asked someone you already know if they can take care of the dog until you resituate yourself?

Have you checked out low-cost options in your area? (See Medical Resources in this guide)

If your situation is temporary, are there family or friends to help and take care of your pet while you're able to recover.

If they previously got along with other pets or just recently began to change behavior, consider taking them to a vet first to see if it might be caused by feeling unwell.

Are there things you could change about their exercise routine or mental stimulation? A bored pet can sometimes be destructive but activity can reduce this.

Meet & Greet: Interviewing Potential Adopters

You want to find the best possible match for your pet, so the first step is transparency. Share with the future family any medical information, behavior information (to the best of your knowledge), the pet's personality and lifestyle in your home, and tendencies.

From there, some thoughtful questions can help you learn more about the prospective adopter and their family:

- What is a typical day like in your home?
- What qualities are you hoping for in a pet?
- What behaviors would be hard for you to tolerate or difficult to manage in a pet?
- Do you have other pets? Tell me about them
- Are their children in your family? If very young, will they be supervised with the new pet?
- What questions do you have for me about our life with the pet?

If it's an option for you, consider doing a trial sleepover where the pet goes to stay and you check back in. If you're able to take the pet back temporarily, let the new adopters know that you'd like that option if things do not work out.



Medical Resources

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

Low-Cost Vaccines / Veterinary Services

VCA Northside Animal Hospital

<https://vcahospitals.com/northside-ct>

Our hospital offers our patients a reduced cost vaccine clinic. During certain days and times of the week, vaccines for your pet are at a discounted rate when your pet receives a regular price veterinarian exam.

Call: (203) 743-4521

PetVet Clinic

<https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/petvet>

Preventive veterinary care clinics held at Tractor Supply stores

Vetco

<https://www.vetcoclinics.com/services-and-clinics/vaccination-clinics-by-state/connecticut-vaccination-clinics/>
Vaccination clinics held at Petco stores

BeCAUSE 4 PAWS

<https://because4paws.org/clinic.htm>
Low cost clinic for cats and dogs
Call: (860) 799-6690
Email: sample@sampleorg.org

TEAM Mobile Feline Unit

<https://everyanimalmatters.org/>
Mobile spay/neuter and vaccine clinic for cats
Call: (860) 399-5569
Email: info@everyanimalmatters.org



Spay / Neuter Resources

BeCAUSE 4 PAWS

<https://because4paws.org/clinic.htm>

Low cost clinic for cats and dogs

Call: (860) 799-6690

Email: sample@sampleorg.org

TEAM Mobile Feline Unit

<https://everyanimalmatters.org/>

Mobile spay/neuter and vaccine clinic for cats

Call: (860) 399-5569

Email: info@everyanimalmatters.org

Danbury Animal Welfare Society

<https://daws.org/low-cost-spay-neuter/>

Low-cost spay and neuter services for cats and dogs.

Call: (203)744-3297 ext 1

Email: clinicadmin@daws.org

Friends of Animals

<https://friendsofanimals.org/spray-neuter/>

Low-Cost Certificates for purchase with participating Veterinarians.

Call: 1 (800) 321-7387

SpayUSA (North Shore Animal League Program)

<https://www.animalleague.org/get-involved/spay-usa/>

Certificate Program and Referral Program

Call: (800) 248-7729

Email: SpayUSA@AnimalLeague.org

Tails

www.tailsct.org

We support spay/neuter of cats and dogs locally and beyond, concentrating in our home area of Fairfield County.

Call: (203) 222-1992

Email: info@tailsct.org

Financial Assistance / Funding for Medical Resources

National Orgs

Red Rover COVID-19 Relief

<https://redrover.org/2020/07/08/coronavirus-covid19/>

Help for urgent care and emergency boarding and a list of other national resources.

Feeding Pets of the Homeless

<http://www.petsofthehomeless.org/>

Medical & food assistance for pets of the homeless.

Brown Dog Foundation

<http://www.browndogfoundation.org/>

Help with prescription medications

Onyx & Breezy Foundation

<https://www.onyxandbreezy.org/>

Assistance for medical care, food, and critical cases

The Humane Society of the U.S. - Pet Support Resources

<https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/are-you-having-trouble-affording-your-pet>

An extensive list of resources, both national and organized by state -- for everything from medical to supplies, and other support.

Waggle

<https://waggle.org/>

Submit your pet's profile and Waggle donors give to help crowdfund.

For pets with cancer visit

wagglefoundation.org/riedelcody

Frankie's Friends

<https://www.frankiesfriends.org/>

Support for emergency and specialty medical care

Shakespeare Animal Fund

<https://www.shakespeareanimalfund.org/>

Emergency care, especially COVID-19 related

The Pet Fund

<https://thepetfund.com/>

The Pet Fund has a grant program that provides assistance for medical issues

Email: info@thepetfund.com

Local Resources

STARelief and Pet Assistance

<https://starelief.org/>

Provide life-saving pet food and veterinary care, emergency boarding and foster care to pets whose caretakers are struggling with financial hardship

Call: (203)636-0971





Behavior & Training

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National Resources

Best Friends - Pet Training Resources

<https://resources.bestfriends.org/pet-training>

Body language, training tips, and enrichment

ASPCA

<https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care>

Dog, cat, equine care tips

Dr. Sophia Yin Dog Behavior Issues

https://drsophiayin.com/resources/dog_behavior/

Videos and articles to better understand dog behavior problems or questions

The Jackson Galaxy Project

<http://www.thejacksongalaxyproject.org/Resources/Cat-Behavior-Resources>

Cat Behavior resource library

Certified Dog Trainer and Behavior

Consultant Directory

<https://www.ccpdt.org/dog-owners/certified-dog-trainer-directory/>

Search for certified dog trainers in your area



Local Resources + Trainers

Sundog Affirmative Dog Training, LLC

Christopher Rohland, CPDT-KA
"Positive Reinforcement, Positive Results"

Call: (203)748-7102

Email: sundog-adt@outlook.com

North Star Canines

<https://www.northstarcnines.com/>
Positive Reinforcement Dog Training
and Puppy Training

Call: (804) 784-0120

Email: viriniadare2013@gmail.com

The Dog Tutor

<https://www.thedoggietutor.net/>
"Over 30 years of Experience
Licensed, Bonded, and Fully Insured"

Call: (914)755-7478

Email: doggietutor@aol.com

Sirius Positive Dog Training

<https://siriuspositivedogtraining.com/>
Good Manners and Behavior
Modification Training

Call: (203) 788-7647

Email:
michele@siriuspositivedogtraining.com

TLC Dog Trainer, LLC

<https://www.tlcdogtrainer.com/>
Professional in-home dog training
Call: 203-241-4449

Email: gleasondonna@gmail.com

Petco Dog Training

<https://stores.petco.com/ct/newmilford/dog-training-newmilford-ct-3772.html>
New Milford Location

Call: (860) 210-0478

Cassio Pet Resort & Training Center

<https://www.cassiopetresort.com/>
Dog boarding, grooming and training
Call: 203-426-2881

Email: info@CassioPetResort.com

Wolfen1 Dog Training

<https://wolfen1dogtraining.com/>
Sharron Lang of Wolfen1 Dog Training
is a certified professional dog trainer
serving all of CT and NY.

Call: 203-788-6148

Email: wolfen1dogtraining@gmail.com





Pet Supply Resources

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

Food + Supplies

New Fairfield/Sherman Animal Welfare Society

www.nfsaw.org

Provides animal food and supplies to those in need

Call: (203) 746-2925

Email: nfsaw@att.net

STARelief and Pet Assistance

<https://starelief.org/>

Provide life-saving pet food and veterinary care, emergency boarding and foster care to pets whose caretakers are struggling with financial hardship

Call: 203-636-0971

Feed Barn

<http://myfeedbarn.com/>

Pet food and supply store

Call: (845) 278-2392

Putnam Humane Society

www.puthumane.org

PHS works with Putnam CAP and other groups to help those who are having a difficult time taking care of their pets.

Provides dog and cat food.

Call: (845) 225-7777

Email: shelter@puthumane.org

Choice Pet- Danbury

<https://choicepet.com/>

Pet food and supply store

Call: (203) 792-5800

Petco- Danbury & Brookfield

www.petco.com

Pet food and supply store

Call: (203) 748-0120 or (203) 775-3337

Thomaston Feed Of Brookfield

<https://thomastonfeed.com/>

Holistic pet food and supply store

Call: (203) 546-7722



Fencing / Dog Houses / Straw or Bedding

Freedom Fence Pet Containment Systems

<http://www.freedomfence-ny.com/>

Installing Electronic Pet Fences

Call: (203) 775-2121

Feed Barn

<http://myfeedbarn.com/>

Pet food and supply store

Call: (845) 278-2392

Tractor Supply Co. (New Milford)

[https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/store_Newmilford-CT-06776_1116?](https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/store_Newmilford-CT-06776_1116?utm_source=localgmblisting&utm_medium=organic)

[utm_source=localgmblisting&utm_medium=organic](https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/store_Newmilford-CT-06776_1116?utm_source=localgmblisting&utm_medium=organic)

Pet supplies, food and bedding

Call: (860) 350-3390



Hospice, Grief Support, and End of Life Services

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National Resources

Pet Peace of Mind

<https://petpeaceofmind.org/>

This organization helps hospice and seriously ill patients keep their pets

(503) 363-0499

Best Friends - Pet Loss & Grief

Resources

<https://resources.bestfriends.org/article/pet-loss-and-grief-resources>

Links to different resources around the web

The Pet Loss Support Page

<https://www.pet-loss.net/>

Hotlines and resources for dealing with grief

The Association of Pet Loss and

Bereavement

<https://www.aplb.org/>

Extensive collection of resources

ASPCA -Resources for End of Life Care

<https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/end-life-care>

Coping with end of life decision-making and pet hospice

International Association for Animal

Hospice and Palliative Care

<https://iaahpc.org/>

A community of pet lovers dedicated to a respectful and dignified final journey for beloved pets

Local Resources

Lap of Love - Fairfield County

<https://www.lapoflove.com/find-a-vet/Connecticut/Fairfield/about>

Provides families and their pets with veterinary end-of-life care in Fairfield County and the surrounding areas.

Call: (203) 588-0600

Email: Fairfield@LapofLove.com

Dr. Dale Krier Creature Comforts

Mobile Veterinarian And Home Pet Euthanasia

[https://drdalekrier.com/?](https://drdalekrier.com/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=GM)

utm_source=google&utm_medium=GM

Provides in home end of life care for animals

Call: 860-355-0247

Comforting Care Veterinary Services

<https://www.comfortingcarevet.com/>

At-Home Hospice Care

Euthanasia & Acupuncture

Call: 914-584-6080

Email:

drwalling@comfortingcarevet.com

Pet Passages of Southbury

<https://southbury.ct.petpassages.com/>

Dignified Pet Cremation &

Memorialialization

Call: (203) 263-2146

Roxbury Animal Clinic

Mixed animal veterinary practice

serving greater Litchfield County

At home end of life and vet care for farm and small animals

Call: (860)-354-8612

Email:

FrontDesk@roxburyanimalclinic.com



Domestic Violence Assistance & Resources

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National Resources

Red Rover - Domestic Violence Safe Escape Grants

<https://redrover.org/relief/dv-safe-escape-grants/>

Helps provide funding primarily for temporary boarding to allow families to escape domestic violence with their pets.

Sheltering Animals of Abuse Victims

<https://www.saaavprogram.org/>

Offering a network of sheltering and grant-based resources to help victims of violence

Sheltering Animals & Families Together

<https://saftprogram.org/sheltering-animals-and-families-together-2/>

The SAF-T Program® works directly with domestic violence shelters to enable more domestic violence victims to leave abusive households without leaving their pets behind and at risk.

Ahimsa House - National Directory

<https://ahimsahouse.org/get-help/directory/>

A state-by-state list of programs to help house and care of pets while escaping domestic violence situations. Plus links to other programs throughout the U.S.

Red Rover - Safe Place for Pets

<https://safeplaceforpets.org/>

A directory of family violence shelters that have resources for pets

Local Resources

STARelief and Pet Assistance

<https://starelieff.org/>

Provide life-saving pet food and veterinary care, emergency boarding and foster care to pets whose caretakers are struggling with financial hardship

Call: 203-636-0971





Community Cats + Kittens

Community cats, sometimes called free-roaming or feral cats, are cats who have either never had any contact with people or their contact with people has diminished over time. They are different than stray or indoor-outdoor pet cats (cats who are owned and cared for but are either separated from their families or have a home but spend time outside).

For community cats, their home is outdoors and in the community. Typically these cats aren't likely to ever enjoy transitioning into a house and traditional pet lifestyle.

Community cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and then returned to their community through a process called Trap Neuter Return or "TNR". You can often recognize those that have gone through this process by an "ear tip" - a missing tip of either ear. It's a universal sign that this cat has been spayed or neutered.

Why spay and neuter community cats? Without this measure of population control, cats living in the community can have too many litters of kittens, leading to poor quality of life and possible overpopulation issues. TNR helps community cats by relieving them of the stresses of mating and breeding, and protecting them from diseases.

In the town of New Fairfield, New Fairfield Animal Control handles emergency calls for injured cats.

If you find an injured cat in New Fairfield please call: (203) 885-4417

What to Do When You Find a Community Cat

If you find a community cat (remember, not a friendly stray --- For info on what to do if you find a friendly stray cat see the "Lost and Found" section of this guide), the first thing to do is look to see if the cat already has an eartip. The most common type of eartip is a flat quarter-inch taken from the top of the left ear, which is painlessly performed surgically while the cat is sedated for spay/neuter. Other TNR programs may use ear notches or use the right ear instead of the left. Ear-tipped cats have already been sterilized and rabies vaccinated, and can be left where they are found.

If no eartip is present, this cat has most likely not been fixed, and you can help by contacting a local organization with a TNR program. Many programs have humane traps for rent or provide full TNR services.

NFSAW has teamed up with New Fairfield Animal Control to provide TNR for our area.

We have humane traps for rent at the shelter or can set traps for you if in the town of New Fairfield.

Check out our website www.nfsaw.org for more information on the program and to fill out a TNR Request form.

For additional questions, contact us!



(203)746-2925



nfsaw@att.net



Other Resources

Danbury Animal Welfare Society

<https://daws.org/feral-cat-t-n-r/>

The DAWS Trap-Neuter-Release program improves the lives of feral cats, improves their relationships with the people who live near them, and decreases the size of colonies over time.

Call: 203-790-6511

Friends of Felines

www.fofct.org

Trap-Neuter-Return programs, rescue of strays, rehoming of cats in bad situations, responsible adoption programs, and community education.

Call: 203-363-0220

Email: cats@fofct.org

Alley Cat Allies

www.alleycat.org

TNR and cat care resources

Call: (240)-482-1980

Spay CT

www.spayct.org

Promote affordable and accessible spay/neuter resources in Connecticut and surrounding areas.

Call: (860) 216-1449

Tails

www.tailsct.org

We support spay/neuter of cats and dogs locally and beyond, concentrating in our home area of Fairfield County.

Call: (203) 222-1992

Email: info@tailsct.org

Cat Tales

www.cattalesct.org

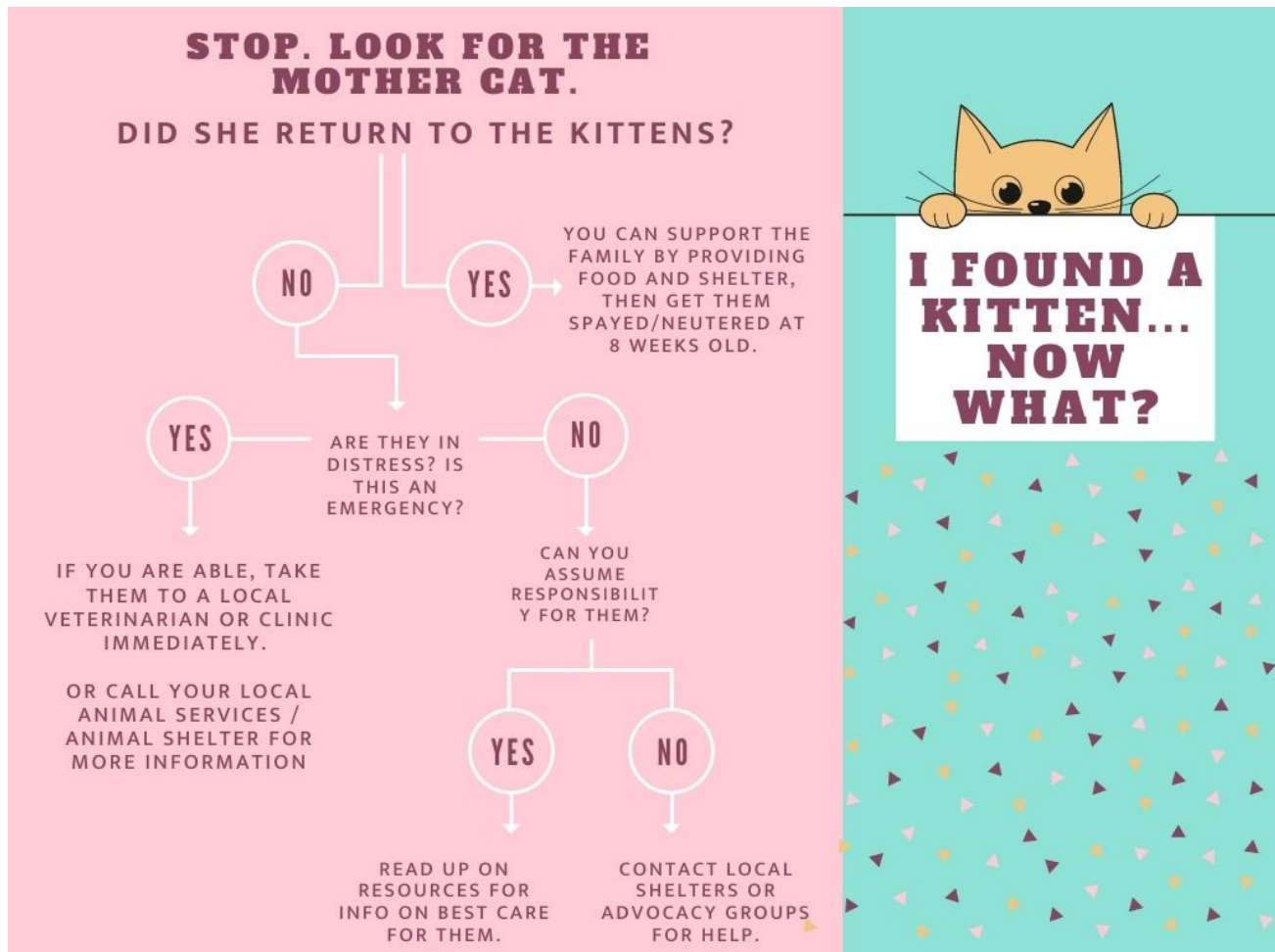
Feral cat resources

Call: 860-344-9043

Email: Info@CatTalesCT.org

What to Do If You Find Kittens

When kittens are very young, their best chances of survival are with their mom. If the kittens are in an unsafe locations, appear distressed or mom hasn't returned after several hours, first make sure they're warm, and then reach out to one of the local resources we've mentioned here.



For More Information:

The Kitten Lady

<http://www.kittenlady.org/>

Tons of resources on kitten care and what to do if you find kittens in the wild.

National Kitten Coalition

<https://kittencoalition.org/>

Resources and education on kitten care and increasing kitten survival rates.

Learn More / National Resources

Alley Cat Allies

<https://www.alleycat.org/our-work/feral-friends-network/>

Resources for becoming more involved in community cat management or understanding more about community cats.

Best Friends - Community Cat

Resources

<https://bestfriends.org/advocacy/protecting-community-cats>

Find a TNR program near you and learn more

ASPCA - Understanding Community Cats

<https://www.aspca.org/animal-homelessness/shelter-intake-and-surrender/closer-look-community-cats>



Pet-Friendly Housing

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National Resources

My Pit Bull is Family

<https://www.mypitbullisfamily.org/housing/>

The nation's largest housing database for nondiscriminatory pet policies

People with Pets

<https://peoplewithpets.com/>

A searchable database for locating pet-friendly housing options.

Petfinder - Steps to Finding Pet Friendly Housing

<https://www.petfinder.com/dogs/living-with-your-dog/finding-pet-friendly-housing/>

Tips and tricks for finding a place that welcomes you and your pet



Military Deployment Options & Assistance

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

National Resources

Dogs on Deployment

<https://www.dogsondeployment.org/>

Provide assistance for pets of those currently serving, including boarding/fostering of pets for those deployed.

911 Foster Pets

<https://911fosterpets.com/>

Emergency fostering and networking to find emergency fosters in your neighborhood.

PACT for Animals

<https://pactforanimals.org/>

Foster homes for pets of deployed service members.

Guardian Angel's For Soldiers' Pets

<https://gafsp.org/>

Network of fosters and other programs to support the pets of deployed soldiers.



Support for Other Species of Pets

Please note this guide does not serve as an endorsement or promotion of any specific organizations and simply reflects currently available resources.

Wildlife Resources

The Wildlife-Line (Sherman)

<http://thewildlifeline.org/index.html>

White Tailed Fawns, Flying Squirrels,
Grey Squirrels, Raccoons, Fox, Skunks,
Ground hogs

Call: (860)355-5797

Email: wildlifeline@yahoo.com

Wildlife in Crisis (Weston)

www.wildlifeincrisis.org

Care and conservation center

Call: (203) 544-9913

Email: wildlifeincrisis@snet.net

Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Wildlife/Wildlife-in-Connecticut>

Call: (203) 544-9913

Farm Animal Resources

Safe Haven Farm Sanctuary

www.safehavenfarmsanctuary.org

Provides a lifelong, loving home for
farmed animals rescued from
abuse or neglect.

Call: (845) 724-5138

Email:

safehavenfarmsanctuary@gmail.com

Fair View Farm

www.fairvufarm.org

Farm animal sanctuary in Bridgewater
CT

Call: 860.354. 3249

Email: joe@fairvufarm.org



Equine Resources

Akindale

www.akindale.org

Akindale is a one-of-a-kind thoroughbred aftercare facility. We focus on individualized care and the strategic rehabilitation and retraining of horses for longterm success and wellness.

Call: (203) 788-5012

Email: Monique@akindale.org

HORSE of Connecticut

www.horseofct.org

Rescuing and rehabilitating abused and neglected horses.

Call: 860-868-1960

Email: horsectinfo@gmail.com

Bird Resources

Green Chimneys

www.greenchimneys.org

Provides rescue, rehabilitation and continued care for injured, orphaned and distressed wildlife, primarily birds of prey.

Call: 845.279.2995

Email: info@greenchimneys.org

Northeastern Avian Rescue

www.rescueparrots.org

Rehabilitate and re-home abused, neglected and otherwise unwanted parrots and other exotic pet birds.

Call: 518-708-6091

Small Animal Resources

Everybunny Counts

www.everybunnycounts.com

Rabbit Rescue

Email: everybunnycounts@yahoo.com

The Hopalong Hollow

www.hopalonghollow.org

Rabbit and Hamster Rescue

Call: 1-203-247-4661

Email: Hopalonghollow@aol.com

Rock N Rescue

www.rnrpets.org

Dog, cat and small animal rescue

Call: (585) 746-4609

Email: rocknrescue1@gmail.com

Reptile Resources

Connecticut Reptile/Amphibian Rescue

<https://reptile.rescueme.org/connecticut>

Rehome and adoption site for reptiles through "Rescue Me!"

Connecticut Iguana Sanctuary

<http://www.reptilecare.com/ctiguana.htm>

Iguana and other reptile resources

Email: reptileszz@cox.net

Turtle Haven

www.turtlehavenct.org

Turtle rehabilitation and resources

Phone: (401) 316-2094

Email: info@turtlehavenct.org





Lost & Found Animals

Whether you've lost your pet or have found a stray pet, we have some important tips for you to follow -- and the advice is actually very similar for both scenarios! The best chances for reunification between owners and lost pets happens close to home, so by following this advice for either case we hope to increase the chances that a pet and its family will find one another quickly.

If You've Found a Pet

Often times, one of two instincts kicks in when someone finds a pet -- leave it and hope it finds its way home or pick it up and take it the shelter. But there's a third and critical way to handle this that could mean helping reunite that pet with its family much more successfully.

If possible, we're going to ask that you look for the owners in your area and possibly even foster that animal for the short term. This leaves space in the sheltering system for pets in emergency situations and critical need, but more importantly often means that the lost pet can find its home -- whereas once at the shelter those chances of reunifications start to go down.

We don't encourage this because we don't want to help animals anymore -- quite the opposite! We want to try and get as many pets back into the loving arms of their families and over time animal shelters across the country have realized this happens better in the community. However, we're still here if you need us!



(203)746-2925



nfsaw@att.net



Step One: Walk Around the Neighborhood

Simply by walking around your neighborhood, you may run into someone who is searching for their pet. Or, you may pass other neighbors or community members (delivery drivers, postal workers, landscapers, pool technicians, etc often know the pets in the homes on your street!) who know the pet and can help identify where they live. In some cases, the lost pet may even lead you back to their home.

Step Two: Check for a Microchip

A microchip is small (grain of rice-sized) tag implanted in the pet's skin (typically between the shoulder blades) that links to the owner's information when scanned with a special microchip scanner. Call local vet offices or contact the shelter to see if they can scan the pet for one! Sometimes even local fire departments or other community services have microchip scanners as well.

New Fairfield/Sherman Animal Welfare Society as well as your local animal control have microchip scanners to check for a chip!

Step Three: Notify Local Shelters

- New Fairfield Animal Control - (203) 885-4417
- Danbury Animal Control - (203) 748-6456
- Regional Animal Control (call for Bridgewater, Brookfield, New Milford Roxbury and Sherman)- (860) 354-2138
- Patterson Animal Control- (845) 878-6500
- Danbury Animal Welfare - (203) 744-3297
- New Milford Animal Welfare - (860) 354-1350
- Ridgefield Operation Animal Rescue - (203) 438-0158
- New Fairfield Animal Welfare Society - (203) 743-2925

Step Four: Get the Word Out

Social media may be a way to capture attention of not just the owner but friends, family members or community members who may recognize the pet. Be sure to post a photo or two (or even a video clip) with the information about where the pet was found, anything notable about their collar or markings, as well as your contact information and where the pet is currently being housed.

Try posting on the Nextdoor app or in the Facebook groups listed below:

- Bethel•Danbury•Newtown Pets Lost & Found
- DOGS- CT Lost/Found Dogs

You can also make and distribute flyers around the community. Make sure the photo is large and easily seen, include where he/she was found, and basic contact information for yourself. Start by posting these around your neighborhood, then begin to branch out to nearby locations, with a special focus on essential needs -- gas stations, grocery stores, bodegas or convenience stores, parks, community centers, churches / synagogues / houses of worship.

Step Five: Upload the Pet to FindingRover.com

Finding Rover is an app and website that uses facial recognition technology to help reunite pets with owners, faster. Click on "Found Pet" on their site or app and add a photo of the found animal along with details about where he/she was found. Lost animals who look like the pet will show up and may help lead you to the lost animal.

If You've Lost a Pet

Similar to the process for finding a pet, we're going to instruct you to follow a few key steps to try and find your pet faster.

- Immediately do a search of the neighborhood and surrounding areas to see if you can locate or spot the pet. If the pet seems to be running away every time you get close, try to go against your instincts and rather than chase, see if you can make a game of you running in the opposite direction. Sometimes this can cause the pet (especially dogs) to decide to engage and chase you instead!

As you search, alert neighbors or community members you encounter so they can keep an eye out for the missing pet.

- Call local shelters, friends, and family who can help or get the word out, and pitch in to find the missing pet. Even after the initial few hours, remember to check in with the shelter daily.
- Take to social media to mobilize your community of friends and followers. Post to lost and found groups and other community-related groups
 - Nextdoor app
 - [Bethel•Danbury•Newtown Pets Lost & Found](#)
 - [DOGS- CT Lost/Found Dogs](#)
 - [Bethel•Danbury•Newtown Pets Lost & Found](#)
 - [DOGS- CT Lost/Found Dogs](#)
- Use traditional methods of getting attention like flyer or continuing to do walk-thrus of the neighborhood with information. Post these in your neighborhood and then in key community locations, working outward from your home in the most-likely pattern. Don't give up and don't lose hope!

Preventative Measures

There are a few things you can do to both prevent your pet from becoming lost as well as being prepared if that should happen. Let's dive in:

- Have your pet wear a collar and up-to-date tags at all times. Even if microchipped this is the fastest way for them to get home when found.
- Get your pet microchipped. Your vet can microchip your pet or check with your local shelter to see if they offer microchipping.
- If your pet is already microchipped, check to make sure it's properly registered and your contact information is up to date. Visit:
<https://www.foundanimals.org/microchip-registry/owners/>
- Upload their photo to Finding Rover's database in the event they are lost.
www.findingrover.com
- Keep them safe when you're not home by bringing them inside, using a crate, or whatever method of containment works best for you and the pet.
- Keep them safe when out and about by leashing dogs when out on walks, or by simply leaving pets home if the occasion calls for it.

Thank you!

Quick Reference Contact Sheet

New Fairfield/Sherman Animal Welfare Society



223 CT State Route 37
New Fairfield, CT 06812



(203) 746-2925



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www.nfsaw.org

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