



FEBRUARY IS SPAY/NEUTER MONTH!

Spay/Neutering Assistance

This is a prime focus for Friends of the Shelter. We subsidize the cost of this procedure for cats and dogs in 7 Northern Kentucky counties. Our goal is to stop unwanted animals from entering shelters. There is absolutely no excuse for these problems to exist in Northern Kentucky. Get the word out.



Two important partners for low cost spay/neuter are EVI (Economic Veterinary Initiative) for cats and UCAN Nonprofit Pet Care Clinic for dogs and cats.



The Economic Veterinary Initiative

Cat and Rabbit
Spays/Neuters
Vaccines
Microchips
Affordable Care

EVICincinnati.com

EVI has partnered with us for many years. Cat owners do not need a voucher to obtain the Friends of the Shelter rate. As long as you are in one of our supported counties and can provide identification, your procedure will cost you \$35 for spay and \$25 for Neuter on all owned cats. We pay for the rest. Appointments are made directly with them. They are at 5214 Beechmont Ave, Cincinnati 45230.

Through this program, as of November 2024, they have taken care of over 500 cats for Northern Kentucky pet owners.

Visit our website for more information as well as links to EVI & UCAN as well as a link to our voucher application.

<https://www.friendsoftheshelterky.org/SpayNeuterAssistance>

PUPPY MILLS ARE STILL AROUND

We've talked about this before and some states have passed laws to help reduce this problem, but not enough. In Kentucky, only Lexington has passed a law that prohibits stores from selling animals.

The primary sales outlet for puppy mill puppies are **Pet Stores and the Internet (and some auctions)**. Aside from legislation, here is what you can do to help eliminate puppy mills.

Never buy a pet from a pet store or the internet. Adopt from local shelters or rescues as these pets are usually vet checked as well as neutered. So you don't have those up front expenses. Animals from pet stores or the internet are rarely vet checked and never neutered. Too often these animals have medical conditions that need treatment.

If you are looking for a specific breed, search shelters and rescues. Look for a breed specific rescue or contact a legitimate breeder. Use the internet for this kind of search, not for purchasing the pet.

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

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



Legitimate Breeders are often breed specific and treat the breeding pair with great care. They receive professional veterinary care as do the litters. You are able to inspect the living conditions and receive all vet records. They will give you a contract with a health warranty. If you don't get these things, you might not be dealing with a good breeder.

The federal government regulates most breeders who sell puppies online and to pet stores. But these regulations are very minimal and don't promote responsible breeding or ensure healthy puppies. For example, it's legal to own 1,000 or more dogs, to keep them in very small cages for their entire lives and to breed them often. The standards aren't meant to ensure good lives for the animals.



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Best Friends Animal Society has an ongoing initiative to stop Puppy Mills. Their work to reach this goal includes creating and lobbying for humane pet sales legislation, educating people, promoting adoptions rather than purchase, and encouraging pet stores to offer pets for adoptions through rescues.

In 2023 Best Friends team helped to enact 12 local ordinances and 2 state-wide bills to prevent the sale of dogs and cats from breeding mills. That means there are now nearly 500 humane pet sales laws in place across North America. For more information visit: <https://bestfriends.org/advocacy/ending-puppy-mills>

Please share this information with your friends and speak out if someone tells you they are buying from a pet store or the internet.

As long as these operations make money, they will exist. The only way to stop it is to take away their sales. Legislation for pet stores is not enough as long as the internet is an option. Education of consumers is the primary way to abolish this business.



Did your membership expire in **December?**

Check your mailing label. If it did, we hope

you will take the time to renew. You are important to us and your dues are needed to provide a consistent income for our programs.

You can renew by mail or through our website. <https://www.friendsoftheshelterky.org/Membership>



Support Friends of the Shelter



Kroger has a community rewards program where they donate to your selected charity every time you shop. Go to Kroger Community Enrollment and select AJ627 as your charity to support Friends of the Shelter.

<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

A Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Kentucky

Friends of the Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 93, Union, KY 41091-0093

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Florence KY
Permit #200



Address:

County Shelters

Boone County

5620 Idlewild Road
Burlington KY 41005
(859) 586-5285

Bracken County

188 Hamilton Rd.
Brooksville, KY 41004
(606) 735-3475

Campbell County

1989 Poplar Ridge Rd
Melbourne KY 41059
(859) 635-2819

Gallatin County

4550 Hwy 455
Sparta KY 41086
(859) 643-3647

Grant County

218 Barnes Road
Williamstown KY
41097
(859) 824-9403

Kenton County

1020 Mary Laidley Dr
Ft. Mitchell KY 41017
(859) 356-7400

Pendleton County

1314 Bryan Griffin Rd
Butler KY 41026
(859) 472-5400

JOIN US! Membership / Renewal / Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email _____

(Your email address is required. Your personal information is never shared with anyone outside our organization)

How do you want to receive **Newsletter**: Mail: ___ Email: ___

Membership: \$15.00 per household. (Renews in December)

Additional Donation: \$ _____

Donations & dues are fully tax deductible as allowed by law. We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Mail with your check to: Friends of the Shelter, Inc., P.O. Box 93, Union KY 41091 or **complete this form online and pay with a credit card:** <https://www.friendsoftheshelterky.org/Membership>