

# PAW PRINTS

People Helping Animals, Animals Helping People

"It is a matter of taking the side of the weak against the strong, something the best people have always done."

— Harriet Beecher Stowe

## Mission

To enrich the lives of both animals and people as a solution-based community resource for animal welfare by providing high-volume and high-quality spay and neuter, rescue and adoption services, volunteer opportunities, outreach, and education.

## Vision

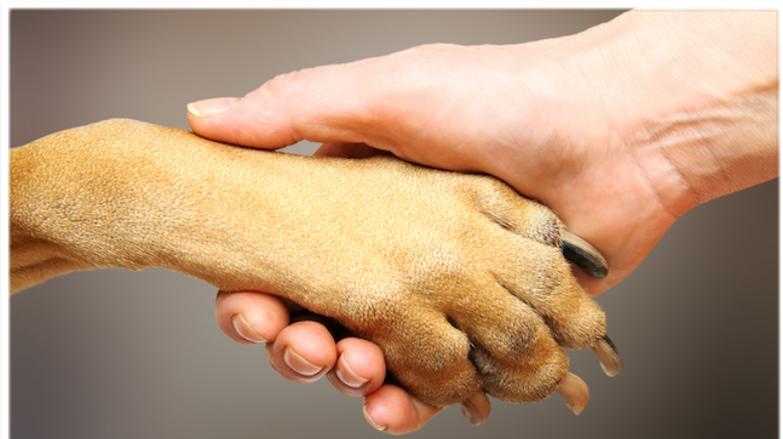
To be the regional leader for animal welfare in adoption, spay and neuter, outreach, and education to ultimately create a No-Kill Community.

**2015** has been an exciting year at PAWS Humane. This year, we greatly expanded our outreach programs. We have found it takes more than free spay/neuters to get people and their pets in the door. We now have a corps of staff and volunteers who meet face-to-face with residents in underserved neighborhoods. We share with them about our low-cost and free services. Connecting with each individual pet owner, we explain the benefits of spay and neuter for their animals.

We are so excited about the **43%** increase in adoptions during the period July 1 through December 1. We sent our adoptions staff to an annual training program in Montgomery and they returned with new ideas to help our animals find loving homes. We expect to end 2015 with over **1,700** pets adopted!

Increasing outreach activities and adoptions were among the initiatives identified in a November 2013 strategic planning meeting. We are proud of our success but we need your financial support to keep it going. Please consider PAWS Humane in your year-end giving and visit [pawshumane.org](http://pawshumane.org) to make your donation today.

- *Bobbi Yeo, CEO*



## Board of Directors

Tom Moore - President

Lori Turner - Vice President

John "Butch" Barwick - Treasurer

Sherry Goodrum - Secretary

Thomas Bryan

Becky Miller

Stephanie Pezold Privette

Katherine Turner

Gloria Woods

Bobbi Yeo - CEO

Drale Short - Ex-Officio

## Contact Us

### Address:

4900 Milgen Road

Columbus, GA 31907

[www.pawshumane.org](http://www.pawshumane.org)

[office@pawshumane.org](mailto:office@pawshumane.org)

(706) 565-0035

Vet Clinic phone number

(706) 987-8380

## Shelter Hours

### Adoption Hours

#### Monday-Friday

10am - 6pm

#### Saturday

10am - 5pm

#### Sunday

12pm - 5pm

### Clinic Hours

#### Monday-Friday

7:30am - 6pm

closed

12p-1p

## New Year's Resolutions

Traditionally the new year brings the inevitable resolutions (that you are definitely going to keep this year) to work to improve our lives in the coming year. This year, let's make some resolutions that will not only keep us happy, but also help keep our four legged babies healthy and happy too!

**Try a new activity.** Involve your pet in your exercise routine. Take up an activity such as hiking, jogging, or biking not only is a great way to bond, but you both will reap the rewards of physical activity.

**Play more.** Playing with your pets keeps them from getting bored. Throwing the ball for your dog, or playing "chase the laser pointer" with your cat mentally stimulates them and helps keep destructive behaviors at bay.

**Update your pet's ID information.** If any of your contact information has changed in 2015, make sure to update your pet's tag and microchip information now.

**Spay/Neuter.** If your pet is not already spayed or neutered, consider all of the health and behavioral benefits of "fixing" your furry friend.

**Schedule a check up.** Routine preventative medical care is not just for people. Yearly check-ups can hopefully catch changes in your pet's health earlier so that any health problems can be managed or treated before they worsen.

**Foster. Volunteer. Donate.** Giving to your local shelter/animal control/rescue organization, fostering an orphaned pet or volunteering is a great way to help the millions of homeless pets who have no one to make resolutions for them.

Happy New Year!!



## Pets as Gifts

We have all watched the video on social media sites where a family opens a box or answers the door and is greeted by a flurry of puppy kisses or the low rumble of a kitten purring. We love to watch it and hear the stories of how the animal made someone's holiday special. The part we don't hear about comes a few months after the novelty of the new pet has worn off; such as when puppy, or kitten, has accidents inside, begins biting, or gets sick.

There are varying schools of thought on whether or not someone should give a pet as a gift. As a shelter, we try our best to educate potential adopters on the commitment involved when adopting an animal. We give the adopter all the pertinent information about the animal to allow them to make a well informed decision. When debating on giving an animal as a gift, think about whether or not this is the right animal for the recipient. Here are some things to consider when giving an animal as a gift:

1. Give friends and family a pet as a gift, but never a surprise. Pets are a wonderful addition to life, yet, not everyone has the time, energy, money, or interest in having a pet. Make sure they are ready for the commitment.
2. Give a pet as a gift to immediate family only. Sometimes a friend might accept a pet as a gift because they just don't know how to say 'no'. Giving a gift to your husband, wife, or kids is ideal. Even then, it is important to make sure it is a family decision. There are a lot of emotional, financial, and time concerns associated with an adoption.
3. Avoid impulse. Whether you want to give a pet to the kids or a immediate family, don't do it on impulse. If you are going to the store for milk and see someone out front with a box of cute kittens or puppies, resist. You weren't going there for a pet, you were going for milk.



### Don't Shop. Adopt.



My name is **Suki** and I came to PAWS after spending time at Animal Control. I was found as a stray and so my friends here don't know much about me other than what I have shown them. I am a beautiful two year old cat who is very social and affectionate. My ideal home would be a place

where I can be a part of the

family. I enjoy being with my people, as well as my own quiet time. Aside from my people, I have found that I really love other cats, so please help me find a home where I can have some feline playtime. I have been spayed, micro-chipped and am current on all of my vaccinations. Come and meet me today!



My name is **Lyla** and hound dogs are the best! Don't you think so? Our entire litter was adopted out one by one to different homes, but my owners brought me back. I just don't understand where my family went. I am a good girl and try to do exactly what I am told, but I need someone to take the time to tell me what that is. Puppies need a lot of training and I am very eager to learn. I am

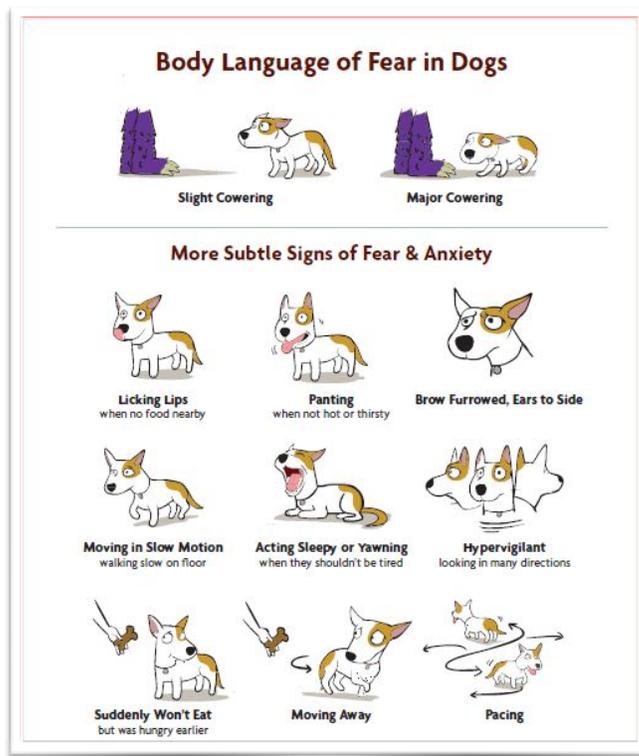
a happy little lady, only two years old. I have been spayed, microchipped and fully vetted with all vaccinations. I would enjoy a big fenced yard to play in and some basic obedience training along the way. Just plain old-fashioned attention would be nice. Someone that just wants a best friend because that's what I want to be.

Throughout the Paws Humane Education program, one section on which we strongly focus, is bite prevention for children. The overwhelming and shocking number of children bitten by dogs yearly reiterates our belief that Humane Education and Bite Prevention lessons are the key to preventing this. According to kidzandk9s.org, 359,223 children ages 1 to 14 were bitten by dogs between 2010 and 2012. Paws Humane hopes to be an acting force in decreasing that number.

To all parents and children, please be aware of the fact that any dog can bite. From the smallest to the largest, even the most friendly, cute and easy going dogs might bite if provoked. You can help protect your child from dog bites by discussing with him/her the appropriate way to behave around dogs. Here are a few tips we offer:

- Children should not pet unfamiliar dogs without asking permission from the dog's owner first. If the owner says it is okay, the child should first let the dog sniff his/her hand.
- Children should not approach, touch or play with any dog who is sleeping, eating, chewing on a toy or bone, or caring for puppies. Animals are more likely to bite if they're startled, frightened or feel the need to protect.
- Children should not try to pet dogs who are behind a fence. Dogs often protect their home or space.
- If a child sees a dog off-leash outside, he/she should not approach the dog and should tell an adult immediately.
- If a loose dog comes near a child, he/she should not run or scream, instead, he/she should avoid eye contact with the dog and stand very still until the animal moves away.

Paws Humane believes if we can teach our parents and children these simple tips, we can make our community a much safer place for our children and our pets. For more information or to book a Humane Education trip, please contact Casey at 706-987-8373 or [volunteer@pawshumane.org](mailto:volunteer@pawshumane.org).



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PAWS Humane  
4900 Milgen Road  
Columbus, GA 31907  
[www.pawshumane.org](http://www.pawshumane.org)  
(706) 565-0035 Adoptions  
(706) 987-8380 Clinic



## PAWS Humane Holiday Hours

Adoption Center  
December 24th: CLOSED  
December 25th: CLOSED  
December 31st: 10am-3pm  
January 1st: CLOSED



Vet Clinic  
December 24th - January 4th CLOSED