



Community Service "Pet" Projects

Special service projects for kids, teachers, and group leaders who want to help the homeless animals of Harford County.



Pet Projects Q&A

Q: Who can work on a Pet Project?

A: Anyone who wants to make a difference in our community by helping the animals at HSHC – especially students who need hours for graduation, Girl and Boy Scout troupes, church groups, or 4-H groups.

Q: What exactly is a Pet Project?

A: You choose a project and work on it from home, work, or school. A variety of approved projects are listed inside this brochure. Groups may choose to schedule a tour or a classroom visit when ready to present their gifts. Remember that we cannot accommodate requests to work directly with the animals for these projects because the amount of time needed for training is prohibitive.

Q: Are the materials for the projects provided by HSHC?

A: Unfortunately HSHC is NOT able to provide ANY supplies. We need to use our money to take care of the animals in our care.

Q: How do we get started?

A: Review this brochure, then decide which project is right for you. Get your project ok'd by your teacher or group leader. Please also contact HSHC's Volunteer Coordinator to let us know what you're doing. In some cases, we may need to approve your materials. We CAN provide literature for some projects.

Q: Where do I drop off my completed project and when?

A: When you are finished with your project, you have several options. You can simply drop it off during our business hours in the white donation bin on our parking lot. Or you can contact the Volunteer Coordinator and make an appointment to tour the shelter. If you have paperwork that must be signed, any of our staff can sign for you.

Q: How do I contact the Volunteer Coordinator?

A: Call 410-836-1090, ext. 106, or email volunteer@harfordshelter.org.

Shelter Hours

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Monday – Friday: | 11am – 6pm |
| Saturday: | 10am – 5pm |
| Sunday: | 12pm – 4pm |

The Projects

Thank you for your interest in our community service program. There are a number of ways you can assist the animals and staff at the Humane Society of Harford County (HSHC). Your group can provide the animals at HSHC with a new toy, bed, or accessory. Creating gifts for the homeless animals is a wonderful service project for groups of all ages.

Choose one of the acceptable projects below to earn your hours. Please contact HSHC **before** you begin your service project to make the most out of your time and efforts! Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 410-836-1090, ext. 106 or volunteer@harfordshelter.org. *Because further training is required to work directly with our animals, Community Service Volunteers do not interact with our shelter animals.*

CATS



MAKE TOYS to entertain cats. Cats love to have toys of their own to play with while they are staying at the shelter. Some ideas for cat toys are listed below:

- ◇ Fill clean plastic eggs with a small amount of dry cat food (no bells or beans, please; if the eggs open, these can pose safety hazards to cats). Then glue the eggs shut and decorate the outside with permanent markers to make a fun rolling toy for our cats.
- ◇ Make pipe cleaner toys for the cats. Bend them into all sorts of shapes!
- ◇ Make catnip toys for the cats. Use square cuts of fabric. Sprinkle a little catnip in the middle and tie edges together with a ribbon. Or make fabric pillows about 3 inches square stuffed with cotton and a little catnip.
- ◇ Decorate ping pong balls for the cats with non-toxic paint or permanent markers.

MAKE CAT BLANKETS. The cats at HSHC appreciate a nice, soft blanket to cuddle up with during their stay.

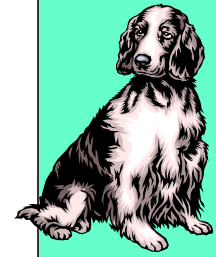
- ◇ Make no-sew fleece blankets. Cut two pieces of fabric and make them the same size. Lay one piece on top of the other and cut strips into the fabric on all 4 sides. Tie the fringes together to make the blanket.
- ◇ Small quilts can be made from cotton fabric scraps. This project will require sewing the pieces together.
- ◇ Learn to quilt, crochet, or knit, then teach it to others to make blankets.

*Completed blankets should measure approximately 18 inches wide and 20-24 inches long and made from a washable fabric.

ASSEMBLE KITTY TAKE-HOME BAGS for low-income seniors and families who need help feeding their pet. Purchase plastic litter pans and fill them with cat toys, cat food, kitty litter – anything you can think of that cat owners need. Pass them out at food banks/homeless shelters or bring them to HSHC for animal control to give out to needy families.

The Projects

DOGS



MAKE DOG BLANKETS. The dogs at HSHC appreciate a nice, soft blanket to cuddle up with during their stay.

- ◇ Sew cotton fabric scraps together into a quilt
- ◇ Learn to quilt, crochet, or knit, then teach it to others to make blankets and/or dog sweaters.

MAKE DOG TOYS to entertain the dogs so they don't get bored.

- ◇ Decorate tennis balls for the dogs with non-toxic paint
- ◇ Braid strips of fabric together and secure

MAKE DOG BANDANAS. The dogs want to look good to attract adopters!

- ◇ Make "Adopt Me" or "Humane Society" triangular-shaped doggie bandanas. Bandanas can be made in any color of washable fabric. Fold a 20" square diagonally and cut on the crease to make two scarves 20x20x30 inches. You can sew the edges or use pinking shears to prevent fraying. You may choose to wrap your bandana around a rawhide treat. These special packages will be given to a dog's new family for a take-home treat.

ADOPT A KENNEL. Visit www.harfordshelter.org/adoptakennel_flyer.pdf for more information.

ASSEMBLE DOGGIE TAKE-HOME BAGS for low-income seniors and families who need help feeding their pet. Design bags and fill them with rawhides and treats, dog food, a leash – anything you can think of that dog owners need. Pass them out at food banks/homeless shelters or bring them to HSHC for animal control to give out to needy families.



SMALL ANIMALS

HELP WILDLIFE. Make a birdhouse or a birdbath

MAKE WOODEN CHEW TOYS for the small critters to help them maintain their dental health. Wooden carrot shapes are especially fun for the bunnies.

The Projects

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

WASH WINDOWS in the adoptions office, cat room, administrative building, etc.

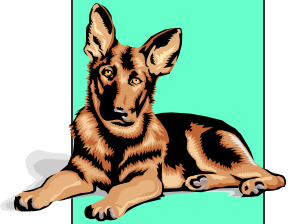
KEEP THE GROUNDS CLEAN. Walk through the agility yard and Rebel's Dog Park. Pick up all toys and return them to their bins. Clean up any trash that you see and scoop the poop.

PLANT TREES in the agility yard.

PLANT A GARDEN dedicated to butterflies or hummingbirds.

BUILD WASTE RECEPTACLES out of wood to hold trash around our property.

BUILD SHELVING for the basement or the pole barn.



MISCELLANEOUS

WRITE AN ARTICLE about HSHC for your local or school paper.

MAKE ITEMS, such as magnets, scarves, or other special animal artwork that you can sell, and donate the proceeds to animals in need

MAKE BOOKMARKS. Make animal fact bookmarks for the school or public library

ORGANIZE AN ANIMAL THRIFT SALE. Send home a notice to parents and neighbors to donate gently used goods. Use the money to buy Kuranda dog beds (www.kuranda.com).

HOLD AN ANIMAL FAIR at school or at church. Design activities and games.

BUILD & DECORATE bookcases and fill them with donated books for the shelter.

DESIGN & BUILD a book & game cart with an animal theme for the lobby for small children.

The Projects

COLLECT SHALLOW CARDBOARD BOXES – the ones that six packs of sodas, beers and waters come in. We use those as litter pans for our cats. You can make arrangements with a few delis, pizza parlors, or liquor stores to save boxes for HSHC. Then once or twice a week, depending on volume, simply drive around and pick them all up. Bring them to HSHC and stack them neatly on the shelves in our pole barn. That's it - our staff will take it from there!

DRAW OR PAINT. We would love to have your artwork to hang in our offices or the shelter. Our walls can always use some jazzing up! Can't think of an idea? Have you adopted a shelter animal? Tell us why shelter animals are the best pets in the world!

THROW A PARTY. Have fun while making a difference! It can work just like a baby shower. Pick a date, plan treats and decorations around an animal theme. Send invitations and a copy of our Wish List to other animal lovers. Ask them to attend and bring a present for a shelter animal. Everyone can have fun unwrapping the presents and then bringing them to HSHC!

HOLD A COIN COLLECTION. Hold a coin drive with a clever name such as *Pennies for Pets, Dimes for Dogs, Cash for Cats, or Change for Critters*. Set up donation canisters in your classroom (get approval first!) or at work to collect money for the animals. School classes can challenge other classrooms to see who can collect the most money. When you are done, count the change and have a bank turn it into a cashier's check or money order for HSHC! This project requires very little time. Have fun and make a difference.

ORGANIZE A FUNDRAISER. Hold a car wash or carnival and collect donations for HSHC. Ask local businesses to spread the word about caring for animals. Distribute information about the shelter at your event to help educate the public. Contact HSHC prior to your event and we can provide you with materials to hand out. You would need to provide all other supplies.

ORGANIZE AN ANIMAL AWARENESS WEEK. A school or community-wide animal awareness week will help get the message of kindness to animals heard. Make posters and distribute flyers. Contact HSHC prior to your event and we can provide you with materials to hand out. You would need to provide all supplies.

GIVE OUT INFORMATION. Man a table at school or in front of the supermarket. Ask the community to support responsible pet ownership and consider a donation of change or supplies to help the animals. Distribute information about the wonderful animals available for adoption at HSHC. Pass out flyers about Rebel's Dog Park, K-9 college, membership with HSHC, and our fundraisers. Contact HSHC prior to your event and we can provide you with materials to hand out. You would need to provide the table and all other supplies.

The Projects

HOLD A WISH LIST DRIVE. Click on HSHC's current Wish List (www.harfordshelter.org/wishlist_main.html) to find out what supplies are needed and hold a wish list drive to collect those items. Advertise at your school (with permission) or in your neighborhood. You can even contact a local business, and with permission, set up a table outside that business to collect supplies. Create posters, set up a marked container and place it in a high-traffic area for people to see. Once all items are collected, plan a visit to our shelter and bring the supplies to HSHC and see the animals who will benefit from your hard work. You can also do specific drives such as a blanket and towel drive, toy drive, or food drive. Contact HSHC prior to your event and we can provide you with materials to hand out. You would need to provide the table and all other supplies.



Mission Statement

Our mission is to help build a compassionate community by providing a safe haven for homeless, stray and abandoned pets; to promote responsible pet ownership; to advocate the kind treatment of animals; to find real solutions to animal-related problems; to provide humane education at every level so that no one is left behind.



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410-836-1090, X106
Fax: 410-877-3788
volunteer@harfordshelter.org
www.harfordshelter.org

Hey, Kids & Parents!

We are collecting food and supplies to care for the homeless animals at the Humane Society of Harford County!

A representative from the Humane Society will be here soon, and we'd like to give them a special gift to help the thousands of animals they care for each year. Some of the things they need are listed below:

For the cats...

- Litter (non-clumping)
- Toys
- Scratching posts
- Heating pads
- Tuna fish
- Small blankets
- Cat beds
- KMR powdered milk replacer
- Nursing bottles for kittens

For the small animals...

- Rabbit/guinea pig pellets
- Timothy and alfalfa hay
- Aspen shavings
- Wood stove pellets
- Carefresh shavings



For the dogs...

- Rawhides/pig ears/bones
- Sweaters/coats
- Exercise pens
- Collars and leashes
- Grooming equipment (brushes, shampoo, nail clippers, shavers, scissors)
- Poop pick-up bags
- Bandanas for the dogs
- Kuranda beds (www.kuranda.com)
- Pooper scoopers

Visit www.harfordshelter.org/wishlist_main.html for more ideas!

Thanks for caring! Please bring your donations to the following place:

Deadline:

