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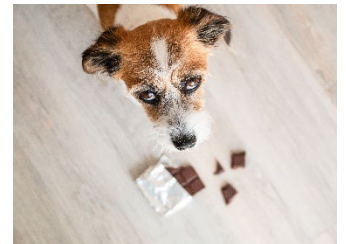


It Can Be Scary - Tips for a Safe Halloween With Pets

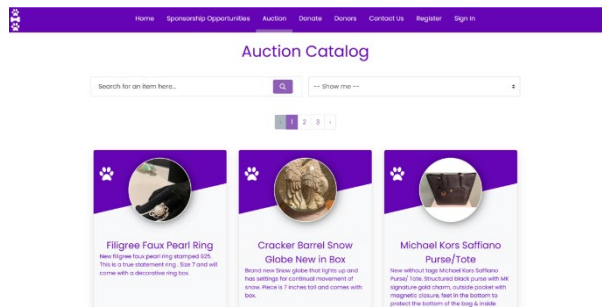
As you prepare for Halloween, it's important to think about how the holiday might affect your pets. From constant doorbell ringing to candy-covered floors, Halloween can be overstimulating, anxiety-inducing, and even dangerous for dogs and cats.

Help keep them safe and comfortable with these tips:

- **Keep Candy and Decorations Out of Paw's Reach** You've probably heard that chocolate is toxic to dogs. During a holiday that revolves around candy, it is especially important to make sure your dog is not getting into anything they shouldn't. If you plan to hand out candy, keep the bowl on a high surface in between trick-or-treaters. With overexcited little witches and ghouls swinging around buckets of candy, you'll also want to keep an eye out for dropped candy on the floor.
- **Have a Plan If Your Pet Eats Something They Shouldn't.** Despite our best efforts, our pets sometimes consume potentially toxic items. Prevention should always be your first plan, but it's important to have a backup plan and know what to do if your pet does get into something dangerous.
- **Choose Pet Costumes Wisely and Never Leave Pets Unattended While in Costume** Everyone loves a pet in a princess dress or a cat dressed as a tiger, but take precautions when dressing up your pet. It's important to make sure that your pet can still eat, drink, and go to the bathroom while in costume.
- **Know Your Pet's Limits** If your pet is especially reactive to doorbells or other Halloween-related triggers, you can take preventative measures to keep them comfortable. Think about handing out candy at the end of the driveway so children don't have to go all the way to the porch. You could also turn off the porch light and leave a bowl of candy outside.



Holidays are exciting, but they can also be scary and stressful for our pets, so be sure to think about how your festivities impact them. Happy Halloween!



Our First Online Auction

We are beyond thrilled to announce a major milestone: our very first full online auction!

Whether you want to bid on unique items, purchase featured selections directly, or sponsor a cause close to your heart, this online event has something for everyone—and every dollar raised goes directly to our life-saving programs and animal care.

Auction Starts: October 1st at 8:00 AM CST

Auction Ends: Well, we will see about that; we have new items coming in every day

How You Can Participate & Help Us Spread the Word

- **Browse & Bid:** Explore a wide variety of exciting items, exclusive packages, and direct sponsorship opportunities
- **Shop Immediately:** Don't want to wait for bidding to end? You can buy select items and sponsorships outright the moment the site opens!
- **Share the Love:** Pass this link along to your network, friends, and family to help us maximize our impact.

[Visit the Online Auction Page Here](#)

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the animals. Get ready to bid, buy, and support a cause that saves lives!

Celebrate Your Hot Dog or Cool Cat with a donation to our Wish List



Click on the [Amazon logo](#) to visit our Amazon Wish List

Or click on the [Shop Our Chewy Wish](#) List logo to visit our Chewy Wish List

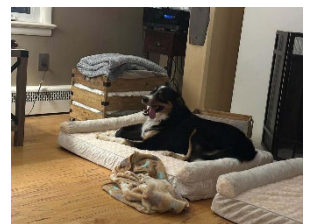


Happy Tails

We love seeing and hearing the wonderful stories you share of your FOCCAS pets. It warms our hearts to see how happy the pets and the people are now that they found their forever homes. Please share your pictures and stories with us at foccasnewsletter@gmail.com.



Gumbo's (top left) new mom sent us a wonderful update and photos "Good morning! Just a little update on Gumbo. He did absolutely amazing on the ride from Tennessee to Pennsylvania. He wanted to ride shotgun, so I rode in the back with him so he wouldn't keep trying to come up front. He is such a cuddle bug and gives the best hugs and kisses. He did fantastic overnight as well. Not quite ready to sleep in the bed with us, but that's ok.... Baby steps. He will get there, and if not, that's ok too. He is starting to play and quickly learned where the toy box is and his new lounge just for him right next to Lily's.



Lily and Gumbo are starting to warm up to each other and will soon be the best of friends. Gumbo is so smart, and he just now got his leash off the counter as he wants to go outside! We love him so much already!

Blue Boy (left) in his new home. We don't think he ever had a home before, as we found him chained to a tree.

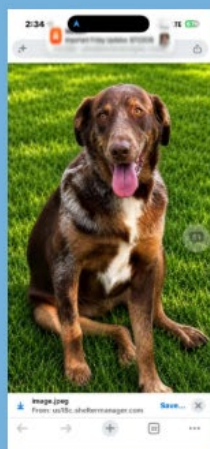


BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

We know fostering can feel like a big commitment. That's why we're asking for just 3 weeks.

At the end of the three weeks, if your foster hasn't found their forever home, FOCCAS will return the dog to its intake facility and work with you on the next step. Three weeks. One open home. One dog who gets a chance to experience life outside the shelter. Could you be that person for a dog? If you're interested in becoming a 3-week foster and live in the greater Crossville, TN area, simply reply to this email or contact Jamie Deats at (518) 894-0759 or jdeats64@gmail.com. I'd love to answer your questions and help you get started.

Our Recent Adoptions



If you are interested in adopting one of our animals, check out our website FOCCAS.tn.org. Complete the online application, and the process begins.

Upcoming Events

We are still finalizing a few more FOCCAS events. Check out our Website and Facebook for the latest updates. So far, we are planning:

October 17 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm - Community Yard Sale at the Square in Fairfield Glade

Fall Workday 2026 - October 23 - Beginning at 10:00am Come join the FOCCAS volunteers as we get our outside kennels ready for winter. If you are more of an inside helper, there's laundry and organizing. Of course, the fun part is yget to play with the dogs and work with a great bunch of people. Please bring a rake, shovel and gloves. Lunch will be served. Contact Debbie Baldwin, (phone: (828) 371-6229 or email baldwindebbie@ymail.com) or Jill Burd (phone: 973-769-3333 or email jillieburd24@gmail.com). Please let us know if you plan to attend so we will have plenty of food for all.

October 25 1:00 to 4:00pm Meet and Greet at Ales and Tail's A Special Thank You to the folks at Ales and Tales for hosting the FOCCAS troop. Come out and meet some of the best rescue dogs in Cumberland County. Some would even say the world. **FOCCAS Online Auction.** We will be hosting our first online auction. Due to food and entertainment costs, the 2026 Bark, Whine and Dine event has been canceled. We hope to raise funds with this On-Line Auction. We need nice items for the auction, so be looking around your home and see what you have to donate for the cause. Contact Debbie Holloway if you have items you believe would be great for the event. We are counting on you to help us fundraise.



We are always looking for new volunteers, and we are having some of our current volunteers take on new responsibilities. Our current Volunteer Coordinator and Event Coordinator are rolling off their current duties. Want to become a volunteer? Complete the volunteer application on our website at <https://foccas-tn.org/volunteer>. There is both an online application and an application that can be downloaded, completed, and emailed back to us.

Volunteer positions need to be filled (a 2-year commitment)

Treasurer -The Treasurer is entrusted with the custody of FOCCAS's funds and shall collect all revenues and pay all approved expenses. The Treasurer is required to prepare an annual financial report. The Treasurer shall be an authorized signatory on all financial accounts. The Treasurer shall have the duty of promoting the purposes of FOCCAS and carrying out its policies.

Secretary-The Secretary shall keep all pertinent records of FOCCAS and minutes of all Meetings of FOCCAS. The Secretary shall publish notice of all Meetings. The Secretary shall provide minutes of all meetings to the President no less than two days before the next scheduled meeting. At the President's discretion, the Secretary shall preside at all Executive Board meetings of FOCCAS. The Secretary shall have the duty of promoting the purposes of FOCCAS and carrying out its policies.

Volunteer Program Director - Manages the recruitment, training, scheduling, and retention of volunteers, crucial for rescue operations and animal care. They define volunteer roles, ensure safety protocols, and often manage databases to coordinate daily activities, enhancing the organization's ability to support, socialize, and rehome animals.

Focus On Cumberland County Animal Safety

PO Box 3245 Crossville, TN 38557

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