



# Homeward Bound Animal Shelter Newsletter July, 2022

## Shelter Updates

It was another busy start to the year with the shelter successfully dealing with a skin condition called ring worm in our cat population. Working closely with Dr. Betts at Parkdale Veterinary Wellness Clinic, we were able to limit the outbreak and successfully treat those affected. It was a major undertaking with staff and volunteers bathing every cat twice a week for several weeks. A big shout out to our great team!!

If you stopped by the shelter recently you might have noticed our Shelter Manager's office looks a little different. Thanks to our Board of Directors who donated the supplies, their time and new office decor to give Shareen a well-deserved office make over.



We were given the go ahead to apply for a couple of grants this year. One grant was to help with the cost of spay and neuters and that was approved; the second grant we are still waiting to hear back. If awarded, the grant will help purchase safety supplies, new caging units and beds.

Kittens, kittens and kittens. The shelter is operating at capacity with cats and kittens. It was a busy kitten season taking in many litters (some without mothers) and pregnant cats. We could use donations of kitten food, cat food and litter.

## ADOPTION UPDATES:

*Finding our Fur-Ever homes!*

### ***Cats and kittens:***

January – March: 16

April – June: 34

Total adoptions: 50

### ***Dogs and puppies:***

January – March: 16

April – June: 30

Total adoptions: 46

**WANT TO HELP?** If you cannot adopt a pet, you are welcome to sponsor a pet by helping to offset the adoption fee. Check out our website for more information on pet sponsorship:

<https://homewardboundmanistee.org/programs>



### **Upcoming Events:**

Tag Days – Aug. 26

Howling Harvest Hunt – Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>  
(Orchard Beach State Park)

Crafting for Critters – Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>  
(Wagner Center)



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Summer is here and it is a great time to be out and about with your pets. However, do not let your pet be a statistic.

**7 second rule**

rest your hand on the pavement → wait seven seconds → too hot? wait out the walk

**Rule of paw: if it's too hot for your hand, it's too hot for your hound!**

**asphalt temperature**

outside F°	asphalt F°
77°	125°
86°	135°
87°	143°
102°	167°

Skin damage can occur in 1 minute!  
125° asphalt temp. → 1 min → [paw print]

It's hot enough to fry an egg in 5 minutes!  
135° asphalt temp. → 5 mins → [pan with egg]

### how hot is too hot?

°C	°F				
15°	60°	1	1	1	1 No evidence of risk: Have fun outside!
18°	65°	1	1	2	2 Risk is unlikely: Have fun outside, but be careful!
21°	70°	2	2	3	3 Unsafe potential, depending on breed. Keep an eye on your pet outdoors.
23°	75°	3	3	3	4 Dangerous weather developing. Use caution.
26°	80°	3	3	4	5 Potentially life-threatening heat. Avoid prolonged outdoor activity.
29°	85°	4	4	5	
32°	90°	5	5	5	+1 if obese
35°	95°	5	5	5	+1 if brachycephalic breed
37°	100°	5	5	5	+1 if less than 6 months old or elderly
40°	105°	5	5	5	-1 if area is shaded from sun
43°	110°	5	5	5	-1 if water is available

### Signs of Heat Stress in Dogs

- \* Panting.
- \*Excessive salivation (which is often thick and ropey)
- \*Weakness.
- \*Collapse.
- \*Bright red membranes of the mouth, tongue, eyes, and sometimes skin in light-pigmented dogs.

### Signs of heat stress in your cat

- \*Restlessness
- \*Drooling, bubbly spit around the mouth
- \*Wobbly on their feet
- \*Collapsing/Fainting
- \*Vomiting
- \*Increased heart rate
- \*Tongue is tinted more red than normal



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Cats and Kittens everywhere,  
They need folks to love and care!



They are dreaming of a place to stay  
And in your loving lap they will lay.



So, open up your home and heart  
You and your new furever friend will never  
be apart!







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## Same but Different: Cushing's disease in dogs and cats.

Did you know animals can develop Cushing's disease, or hyperadrenocorticism? It occurs when the adrenal gland produces too much of the stress hormone called cortisol. While cortisol is important, too much can result in illness. Cushing's disease affects mostly middle-aged to older dogs and cats but more female cats are affected than males and while breed is not a factor for cats, certain breeds of dogs are more susceptible to Cushing's. Diabetes usually accompanies Cushing's in cats.

Dog breeds most susceptible to the illness are Dachshunds, Poodles (miniature especially), Boxers, Boston, Yorkshire, and Staffordshire terriers.

### **Causes in both dogs and cats:**

- ❖ Tumor of the Adrenal gland
- ❖ Tumor of the Pituitary gland

An additional cause in dogs is the excessive or long-term use of steroids. This is a specific type of Cushing's called Iatrogenic.

### **Symptoms to look for in both dogs and cats:**

- Excessive thirst, hunger, and urination
- Enlarged abdomen
- Hair loss
- Lethargy

### **Additional symptoms in cats:**

- Weight gain or loss
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Curled ear tips
- Unkempt appearance

### **Diagnosis for both dogs and cats:**

- Baseline bloodwork (CBC/chemistry)
- MRI
- Urinalysis +/- urine culture
- Ultrasound of the abdomen

### **Additional diagnosis for cats:**

- Blood pressure check
- X-ray of chest and abdomen
- Hormone tests
- Cortisol level tests



Molly is a current resident at Homeward Bound. She is a 10 yr. old Havanese mix who was diagnosed with Cushings since her arrival. She really needs a family who will love her and provide for her care. She is an active, happy girl that can provide years of companionship if given a chance.

### **Additional symptoms in dogs:**

- Panting
- Sudden blindness
- Urinary incontinence
- Reoccurring skin infections
- Reoccurring urinary infections



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Additional diagnosis for dogs:

- ACTH stimulation test (can have false negatives)
- Low-dose dexamethasone suppression tests
- High-dose dexamethasone suppression test
- Urine cortisol to creatinine ratio

**Treatment:** Discussion with your veterinarian is your pet's best plan of action.

Cats: Medical treatment has not been shown to be effective. Surgery to remove the affected gland(s) is usually recommended. Medicine will be required to offset the removal of the gland(s) and the medication isn't usually tolerated well by cats so getting the correct dosage is key. Constant monitoring is required.

Dogs: Treatment depends mainly on the root cause of the disease. Medication, surgery, and radiation are most common. If the Cushing's has been caused by steroid use, tapering off and discontinuing of the steroids may be suggested. Constant monitoring is required.

**Prevention:** For both dogs and cats, prevention is not possible. If diabetes is present in your pet, you may want to ask your vet about Cushing's

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*Pup-pups awaiting your loving arms  
Come and see their spunk and charms!*





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## Michigan Dept. of Agriculture Inspection

Did you know that each year the Manistee County Humane Society/Homeward Bound Animal Shelter is inspected by the Department of Agriculture of the State of Michigan? The inspection consists of four areas of interest: Facilities & Operations, Primary Enclosures, Animal Health & Husbandry, and Record Keeping & Documentation. Each area consists of a dozen or so items they are specifically looking at and if applicable, given a rating of satisfactory or non-satisfactory. All applicable areas received a satisfactory rating.

Congratulations to our great staff, volunteers, and board for the amazing Department of Agriculture annual inspection report! Homeward Bound Animal Shelter passed with flying colors.

Excellent work everyone - well done!



Dottie is a 7 yr old female tabby that has been at the shelter over 8 months. While she waits for her new family, she has been helping at the front desk and ensuring nothing happens without her approval.



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## DID YOU KNOW?

- THE SHELTER OPERATES 7 DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS OF THE YEAR. NEITHER RAIN, SLEET, SNOW NOR HOLIDAYS PREVENTS PROVIDING CARE TO OUR ANIMALS.
- THAT THE ANIMAL SHELTER DOES 10-12 LOADS OF LAUNDRY A DAY.
- THAT THE SHELTER USES 1 GALLON OF BLEACH PER DAY.
- THAT THE SHELTER SPENDS APPROXIMATELY \$4,000 PER YEAR ON CAT LITTER.
- IT TAKES APPROXIMATELY \$14,000 PER MONTH TO RUN THE SHELTER. ANIMAL CARE IS 60% OF OUR TOTAL EXPENSES. THE REMAINING 40% COVERS THE EXPENSE OF HAVING A SHELTER SUCH AS PAYROLL TAXES, WORKERS COMP, INSURANCE, UTILITIES, WASTE MANAGEMENT, BUILDING REPAIRS, GROUNDS UPKEEP, AND OFFICE RELATED EXPENSES

### Shelter Needs:

- |                            |   |                                |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| *Bleach                    | *Blankets   | *Toys for dogs and cats        |
| *HE Laundry Detergent      | *Hand sanitizer                                     | *Newspaper (to line cat cages) |
| *Cat Litter                | *Treats   | *Toys for dogs and cats        |
| *Cat/Kitten Food (wet/dry) | *Dish soap  | *Garbage bags (kitchen size)   |
| *Dish Soap                 | *Paper Towels                                       | *Disinfectant wipes            |
| *Dog/Puppy Food (wet/dry)  | *Gas cards (for transport to/from vet appointments) |                                |
| *Volunteers                |   |                                |



Ways to donate: [www.HomewardBoundManistee.org](http://www.HomewardBoundManistee.org),  
AmazonSmile Wish List, PayPal.