

Randolph County Animal Shelter (RCAS)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is there a law in Alabama regarding animal shelters?

Every county shall provide a pound and an officer to impound dogs and cats running at large. If a municipality has a population of over 5,000, and the pound is not located in that municipality, the municipality shall either provide a pound or contribute a pro rata share for the operation of the county pound. Ala Code 3-7A-7. The population of Randolph County in 2019 was 22,647.

2. Is there a spay/neuter law in Alabama?

Any person acquiring an animal from a public or private animal shelter, control agency operated by a political subdivision of this state, or humane society from which an animal is not sterile at the time of acquisition, shall submit to the animal shelter, animal control agency, humane society, or public or private animal shelter a signed statement from the licensed veterinarian within seven (7) days after the sterilization.

Act 2006-627,62

Section 3.9.3

Violations: It shall be a misdemeanor to fail or refuse to comply with this chapter. Any person failing or refusing to comply shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of a minimum of fifty dollars (\$50) and not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200).

3. What is the Mission of the Randolph County Animal Shelter (RCAS)?

To care for and find homes for stray dogs and cats in our community. We hope to eliminate animal suffering, improve animal health, foster greater appreciation for the human-animal bond and educate our community about animal concerns. We are dedicated to finding each of our great animals their forever home.

The RCAS was founded by a group of determined people who saw the need for a warm and welcoming temporary home for the many abandoned animals that roamed the streets. Our doors were opened on October 27, 2007, when we began finding loving families for all of our “second chance” animals. RCAS takes pride in our helpful staff and volunteers. They put forth the extra time and compassion to make sure that all our animals are given lots of love and attention.

4.What are the RCASs hours/days of operation?

Tuesday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Wednesday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Friday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

The RCAS is closed on Sunday and Monday.

Telephone – 256 357-0101

Email – rcaskennelmanager@yahoo.com

randolphshelter@centurylink.com

Facebook – Randolph County Animal Shelter Wedowee, Alabama

<http://www.randolphshelter.com>

4.Is the RCAS a “no kill” shelter?

The RCAS is considered a “No Kill” shelter. Our goal is to adopt out all of animals. Unfortunately, euthanasia is a necessary procedure due to behavioral issues or health issues. We try to place all animals, if at all possible.

5.Does the RCAS work with rescue organizations?

The RCAS works with several rescue operations in the northeast. But since 2020 rescues have been full and fosters can be hard to come by. RCAS keeps working with them in hopes of getting animals out of the shelter. Rescue groups arrange for people to pick up the animals at RCAS. Transport generally runs every week or two but there could be more time in between pickups.

6.Does Randolph County operate and fund the animal shelter?

The Randolph County Animal Shelter (RCAS) is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. The shelter receives some funding from Randolph County as well as cities within Randolph County who bring stray animals to the shelter.

The majority of funding for the RCAS comes from donations from many shelter members, volunteers and supporters. RCAS memberships are \$25 per year. You may complete an application on the web site – www.randolphshelter.org and selecting the tab Ways to Help. Another option is to become a Corporate Sponsor. Additional information regarding corporate sponsorships can be found on the RCAS web page – www.randolphshelter.org.

In addition, fund raisers are held throughout the year to raise money for the operation of the shelter. There are book sales several times a year at the old Cotton Warehouse on Main St. in Roanoke. Raffles have been held and most recently Jail and Bail was held to raise money for operations of the shelter.

7.Are there other ways to support the shelter other than providing monetary donations?

Donations of dog and cat food, sheets and towels, cleaning supplies and volunteering to work at the shelter.

Pet supplies: cat litter, dog shampoo, collars and leashes and pet carriers.

Medical Supplies: Hydrogen peroxide, rubbing alcohol, Benadryl 25 mg, plain tablets, gauze squares, Neosporin ointment, and triple antibiotic cream.

Office supplies: Paper clips, scotch tape, copier paper, file folders, pens, note pads, and scissors. **Houseware:** bleach, laundry detergent, quart zip

lock bags, toilet tissue, mop heads, latex gloves, Febreze, 409 cleaner, Dawn liquid dishwashing soap, dishwasher soap powder, 18-gallon garbage bags, anti-bacterial soap, large mops, 39-gallon large trash bags (heavy duty), paper towels and Fabuloso or similar cleaning produce. Shrubbery and perennials for our grounds **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

8.What does it cost annually to operate the shelter?

It costs approximately \$176,000 per year or approximately \$15,000 per month to operate the shelter.

10.What should I do if I want to adopt an animal?

If you are interested in adopting one of our animals, we suggested you come to the shelter, look at the animals that are available, spend some time with the animal, take some time to think about the adoption and when you've made your decision to adopt, come to the **RCAS** and complete the adoption application with proof of home ownership or rental agreement with name of Renter and phone number, and the adoption paperwork.

11. What is the average number of animals housed at the RCAS?

The RCAS can house 80 dogs and 25 cats. However, since the COVID pandemic we have approximately 40 dogs and 12 cats.

12.Does the RCAS spay or neuter animals?

The RCAS does not spay or neuter animals but has an agreement to perform low cost spay and neuter procedures. Alabama Spay/Neuter Clinic, Irondale, Al.

Fees and Services

Female dog spay - \$83 Male Dog neuter - \$68

Female cat spay - \$68 Male Cat neuter - \$53

Feral Cat (male or female) including rabies vaccination - \$75

Rabies vaccination - \$26 (unless you have a rabies certificate)

Extra take home pain medication – N/A Fuel Fee N/A surcharge

All surgeries are performed by licensed veterinarians. There are no additional charges for large dogs or for female pregnant or in heat. To arrange transport on the vehicle please contact Alabama Spay/Neuter Clinic 205 956-0012.

These prices could change at any time per the Alabama Spay and Neuter Clinic.

12.What do I do if I have a stray animal that I want to bring to the shelter?

If you have a stray animal, please call the RCAS to determine if space is available to house the animal. If space is not available, your name will be placed on a waiting list, and you will be contacted when a space becomes available. Every effort will be made to follow up with you following the initial call.

13.Will RCAS staff pick up stray animals?

RCAS does not have staff to pick up animals. If you have a stray animal, please contact RCAS.

14. Does RCAS board animals? What is the cost?

\$12 daily for the first pet or \$6 each if boarding more than one in the same room. The animal has to weigh less than 40 pounds and have rabies and Bordetella shots.

15. Does the RCAS groom animals?

RCAS does not provide a grooming service for animals.

16. Does the animal I adopt have to be spayed or neutered?

Yes. All animals adopted from our shelter must be spayed or neutered either before or after, they are placed into their new homes. If the animal chosen has not been spayed or neutered, you will receive a voucher for it to be done within 3 months.

17. Can I take the animal to my own vet to have them spayed or neutered?

Yes, but you must purchase the voucher available at RCAS and return it with verification that the animal has been altered. RCAS will offer a refund. We have contracted with local vets for the procedure to ensure compliance with Alabama law.