

Prepping for Old Man Winter

by Shelley Berger

With the wonderful show of fall color covering the trees, magazines showing delicious recipes for soup, and lush green grass happily thriving in October's rainfall, it's easy to forget that winter is right around the corner. Mother Nature reminds us that she will put flowers and trees into a deep sleep by lowering temperatures and shortening daylight hours. It's time to get ready for winter. As you stow the garden hose away or add coveralls or a blanket to the trunk of your car, remember to care for animals living outdoors.



Safe Haven has been busily trapping, spaying and neutering stray and feral cats throughout the year. We do this to improve the health of the cat and also their colony. When they are neutered or spayed, they are vaccinated against rabies and distemper, and also receive flea medication or medical care if needed. Our attempts to keep them healthy doesn't stop with preventing overpopulation or disease. Safe Haven also helps people provide safe, warm homes for cat colonies and barn cats.



We currently have over 40 high quality Styrofoam containers ready to be modified into cozy winter homes. Insulated cat houses can also be made from plastic tubs lined with Styrofoam. To make the best use of these containers, we recommend cutting a hole at one end of the container and covering the cut edges with duct tape to prevent the area from being worn away with use. When picking up a container, keep in mind that it works best when it is smaller and more efficiently traps a cat's body heat. If a shelter is too large, it will be too hard for the cat to keep warm.

To maximize the heat trapped in the container, consider lining it with reflective Mylar which can be purchased in rolls at your local hardware store. Although you may be tempted to add a comfy blanket or towel to the container, the best choice for bedding is straw or shredded newspaper. Fabric or fleece blankets, towels or folded newspaper will absorb body heat and chill cats who are lying on them. Straw will help wick away melted snow from fur and paws and a heavy weight on top will keep it from blowing away.

Providing clean drinking water is essential, too. Heated pet dishes or chicken waterers work well, but if there is no electricity in the area the cat colony is located in, the use of solar power can help keep water from freezing. Here's an old trick used by horse owners to keep buckets of water out in the pasture from freezing. Take an old black tire (that's off its rim) and fill it with rocks. Then tightly wedge a large bucket in the tire's hole and fill with water. During the day, the tire absorbs sunlight and heats the rocks stuffed inside. The rocks in turn radiate heat and keep the water from freezing.



Once you have prepared a warm environment, check to make sure you are providing a safe environment as well. Here are things to avoid having near animals;

- Rock salt used to deice sidewalks. Dogs and cats can ingest salt by licking their feet after walking on iced paths. Rock salt can cause salt poisoning if ingested. Signs of salt poisoning include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, incoordination, excessive thirst and urination, tremors, and seizures within 3 hours. Safer pet-friendly options for removing ice are available.
- Antifreeze made with propylene glycol is toxic to animals if ingested. Drinking the smallest amount can cause kidney failure and death, especially in cats.
- Mothballs, which contain naphthalene, can cause drooling, abdominal pain and vomiting and even organ failure.
- Rodenticides containing cholecalciferol are a significant health threat to dogs and cats. Cholecalciferol produces excess calcium in the blood, which results in calcification (hardening) of soft tissue throughout the body. There is no antidote.
- Rodenticides containing Bromethalin, an extra-lethal toxin, kills by causing deadly swelling of the brain (cerebral edema) within 2 to 24 hours (depending on the ingested dose). The toxic dose for this particular poison is very low, especially for cats. There is no antidote. Treatment at an emergency pet hospital includes giving medication to make the animal vomit as much of the poison as possible and then forcing the animal to ingest charcoal to absorb as much of the remaining poison as possible.



Cars are one of many hazards to small animals—warm engines in parked cars attract cats and small wildlife, who may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.

Pet Poison Hotline - 1-800-213-6680

A fee will be charged.



An Ounce of Prevention

Safe Haven has two new residents who have, unfortunately, tested positive for heartworm. The first, a 1 year old Heeler mix named Sky, recently showed up as a stray at a farm near Homestead. The senior farmer that found Sky took him to the vet where, sadly, he tested positive for Heartworm.

That same week, we had a dog come into the Iowa County Pound named Baloo. He is a young, big sweetheart that we think may be a St Bernard/Hound mix. Baloo was never claimed by his family, so our very own Dr. Barbara Roland did his intake exam, where we found out he also is Heartworm positive.

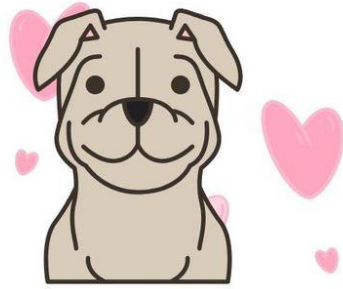


The intense treatment for this fatal disease costs ~\$1,000 and is not easy, as dogs must be kept on kennel rest (quiet and calm) for months while they receive multiple injections of medicine to slowly kill the heartworms. Heartworm disease is not contagious, meaning a dog cannot catch the disease from being near an infected dog. Heartworm disease is only spread through the bite of an infected mosquito and is preventable by giving a monthly heartworm preventative.

One of the first steps of treatment is an ultrasound of the heart to see if any mature worms are present. As you may remember, several years ago Corridor Radiology in Coralville donated an ultrasound machine to Safe Haven, and one of their employees is our veteran volunteer, Ann Wetjen. She is able to perform ultrasounds, alongside Dr. Roland, on our pets as needed. Luckily even though Sky's bloodwork shows he has an advanced case of Heartworms, he does not currently have any adult worms residing in his heart! Baloo's ultrasound seemed to reveal masses on his heart but after careful review by a radiologist, it was determined the images were not masses. Both Sky and Baloo are receiving antibiotics in preparation for the injections they will receive.



Oh Stewie!



Stewie has been in our care for over a year now. He is a very handsome & quite athletic boy who is looking for an only-pet home. This silly boy LOVES to play ball ... but he also LOVES his cuddles from our volunteers. Stewie loves the great outdoors. From spying on the squirrels, to sniffing in the leaves, and most importantly getting extra love & snuggles on the benches along the trails, he is one happy boy when he is out & about (especially in the sun!!) He recently made a visit to Briarwood Healthcare Center with volunteer Abby and was a perfect gentleman.

Out and About with Aspen



Aspen, and volunteers Kimberly and Peggy, had so much fun at the Howl-o-ween at Williamsburg Outlets!

October Adoptions



TINKER



RAZZLE



WOBBLE



T-BONE



NUTMEG



MARILYN



BLUE



JUDY & PIPER



BELLA & BULLET



BINGUS



SALLY



HARPER

More October Adoptions



BENJI



OLIVER



MEMPHIS BELLE



WEEBLE

New Kids on the Block



MANDARIN



ANGEL



TURTLE



AURA



BOWSER



BOO



PEACH



KOOPA

More New Kids



RAYNE



PEANUT



BIRDIE



SKY



SHASTA



ZANE



ELLIS



OWEN



ASPEN

Safe Haven's Mission: The mission of Safe Haven is to rescue, protect, rehabilitate and find good homes for dogs and cats in Iowa County. Secondly, to significantly reduce the overpopulation of stray dogs and cats and improve the lives of humans and the lives of pets through public education and sponsoring low/no cost spay and neuter programs.

SAFE HAVEN OF IOWA COUNTY

AUTUMN COOKIE WALK



November 18, 2023
9AM until sold out

**This year's Cookie Walk will again
be a drive-thru event.**

**Volunteers will be filling cookie boxes with
a variety of homemade cookies and we will
then be selling those pre-filled boxes
through the drive-thru.**

*Preorders can be made on
our website starting November 1st.*

Small Box
1 lb. of cookies—\$12
Large Box
3 lbs. of cookies—\$24



(319) 622-7387
www.wesavepets.com



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South Amana, IA 52334

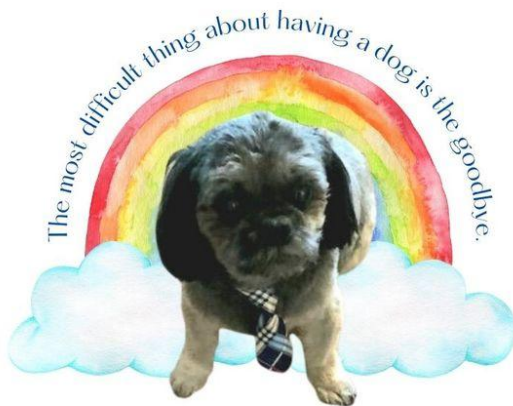
Save the Date!

Dad's **Belgian Waffles**

Serving Waffles, Sausages, Flavored Syrups and Beverages



December 9th 8am-11am



Our hearts go out to Eileen and family as they mourn the loss of their dear Doc Howliday. He went from such a scaredy-cat, into such a mommy's baby. Doc was a senior dog when adopted and Eileen gave him four years of love.

CALLING ALL ANIMAL LOVERS!

We need more volunteers! Safe Haven doesn't just rely on donations of money or items — we also depend on contribution of time. There are many ways to get involved so there is really something for everyone. Examples of volunteer roles include:

- 🦷 DIRECT CARE AND ENRICHMENT WITH OUR ANIMALS
- 🦷 ORGANIZING OR WORKING EVENTS
- 🦷 YARD AND BUILDING PROJECTS
- 🦷 FOSTERING
- 🦷 COMMUNITY CAT TRAPPING AND TRANSPORT FOR SPAY/NEUTER PROJECT
- 🦷 GENERAL CLEANING AND ORGANIZING



We are in need of help on weekday mornings with both cats and dogs.

Volunteer orientation schedule

Sunday, November 5th at 3PM

Sunday, December 10th at 3PM

NON-DIRECT CARE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



**LAUNDRY & CLEANING
A FEW HOURS A WEEK**

JOIN US NOW

WWW.WESAPEPETS.COM

Taking Care of Business

Financial News:

September Expenses

Pet Food Supplies	1,887.91
Payroll & Taxes	5,321.96
IHA Spay/Neuter Program	205.00
Surgery Suite Supplies	1,782.33
Water	99.48
Electric	518.43
Internet/Phone	103.29
Dumpster rental	35.00
Accounting Services	319.80
Minor Equipment	2,912.25
Website domain	115.00
Bank fees	31.03
Mileage	96.12
Fundraising expense	7,360.66
Insurance	<u>1,364.00</u>
TOTAL Expenses	\$22,037.26

Surgical Suite Update:

October

Cat surgical suite:

- 5 spays and 4 neuters
- 17 distemper vaccines
- 1 Rabies vaccine
- 7 microchips
- 21 doses of wormers
- 17 doses ear mite med
- 14 nail trims
- 7 doses of Revolution
- 4 FeLV-FIV tests
- 1 lab sample
- 1 injection of B12
- 1 injection of Pen G

Dog surgical suite

- 2 spays
- 0 neuters
- 5 Bordetella vaccines
- 4 rabies vaccines
- 4 distemper vaccines
- 3 nail trims
- 4 heartworm tests
- 4 microchips
- 2 blood draws
- 2 dentals
- 3 tooth removals
- 2 ultrasounds
- 2 lab samples
- 1 growth removal



Safe Haven Board Members



Morgan
Lagos



Amy
Reihman



Andrea
Prymek



Kimberly
Buresh



Nancy
Kohrt



Susan
Shaull-
Scheer



Colleen
Bowers

Board Meetings

Safe Haven's Board of Directors meets on the **first Tuesday of every month via Zoom at 6:30PM**. If you ever have concerns or questions that you would like to discuss with the board, please feel free to attend the first half hour of the board meeting. If you are unable to attend at that time, you can always email the shelter at adoptions@wesavepets.com, with your concerns.



Like us on
Facebook &
Instagram

or

Share with
a friend!



Building Location:
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Williamsburg, IA 52361