

"How Much Is That Doggie (Cat, Rabbit, Etc.) In The Window?"



Before you ask that question, get the facts about rescued animals.

There are a lot of misconceptions about how non-profit rescue organizations work. More importantly, there are rampant misconceptions about the animals these groups care for and make available for adoption. Before you make the decision to adopt a pet - to take responsibility for a life - learn the facts about rescue groups, and rescued animals, versus animals from pet stores and "back yard" breeders.

Q. Where do rescue groups get their animals?

A. "Intake" policies vary from group to group, but basically, animals are rescued wherever there is a need. The majority are rescued off of death row at city shelters - many times with mere hours standing between them and an untimely, frightening death.

Many are found abandoned on the side of the road, or left behind in a back yard when a family moves. Some animals are rescued directly from abusive or neglectful situations.

There are often circumstances where an owner has died or is in the last stage of a terminal illness and a rescue group is the only "safety net" for that person's beloved pet.

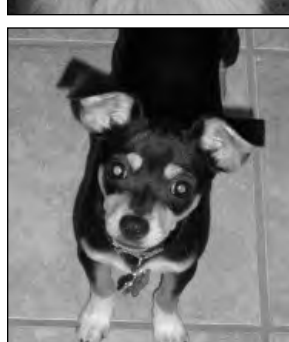
Countless animals find themselves homeless on any given day, through no fault of their own. For many people, a pet is as expendable as trash. Sadly, the children of these people grow up to mirror the same disturbing behaviors - and the cycle continues.

Q. Aren't rescue animals "defective" in some way?

A. Certainly, an argument can be made that it is not the animal who is defective, but rather the human(s) who betrayed that animal's trust.

Truthfully, many animals do arrive at rescue groups having been injured, abused and neglected. They often require a lengthy rehabilitation process, both medically and behaviorally. The bright side is, there is success story after success story, every day.

Many rescued animals are the picture of health, perfectly well adjusted and simply ready to find a loving, forever home - maybe yours?



Q. Why do the groups charge an adoption fee?

A. A non-profit organization incurs substantial expenses in the rescue, rehab and care of their animals. In addition to the basics of food, collars, leashes, tags, training, grooming, flea, tick and heartworm prevention, each animal receives complete veterinary care, which includes: spay or neuter, shots, worming and heartworm test. Many animals require life-saving heartworm treatment or arrive with injuries that require major surgery of some type.

Adoption fees help offset a small portion of the expenses rescue groups incur for each animal, so that they can continue to do this work.

Q. Why is adopting from a rescue group preferable to going to a pet store or a breeder?

A. When you consider the alternative of spending hundreds of dollars for an animal from a pet store or back yard breeder, then spending hundreds more at the vet's office, you see that adoption is a cost-effective option.

With a pet store or back yard breeder, pet owners run the risk of their animal coming from a "puppy mill", where the conditions are deplorable, and neglect is the norm - quite contrary to popular belief.

Unlike with other sources, a rescue animal is not considered merchandise. Instead, they are loved, cared for, precious beings. They are the sole reason why rescuers do what they do. Adopting a rescue animal is a way to help fight the problem of animal overpopulation, instead of perpetuating it. Be a part of the solution - adopt.

CONTACT ANY OF THE GROUPS LISTED BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ADOPTING A PET. HELP SAVE A LIFE.

AlmostHome Dogz Rescue
almosthome@gmail.com; 214.926.1521
American Boston Terrier Rescue
 972.407.4440; www.bostonterrierrescue.net
Animal Rescue Klub (ARK)
www.animalrescueklub.org; 972.562.HELP
Animal Rescue of Texas
www.animalrescueoftexas.org; 214.276.7802
Camp Wolfgang (German Shepherd Dog Rescue)
 214.520.7000; www.campwolfgang.peffinder.com
Chihuahua Rescue and Transport, Inc.
www.chihuahua-rescue.org
City Pet Rescue (CPR)
www.citypetrescue.com
Coppell Humane Society
www.coppellhumanesociety.com; 972.462.1121
Dachshund Lovers of Texas
www.dachshundloversoftexas.org; 214.577.7536
DFW Cocker Spaniel Rescue
www.dfwcockerrescue.8m.com; 972.994.1133
DFW Labrador Retriever Rescue Club
 972.881.5544; www.dfwlabrescue.org
East Lake Pet Orphanage
 214.349.ELPO (3576); www.elpo.org
Flower Mound Humane Society
www.fmhhs.org; 972.691.7387
Frisco Humane Society
www.friscohumanesociety.com; 972.498.8980

Great Dane Angel Network Rescue
 817.361.9855; www.daneangelnetwork.org
Humane Animal Rescue Team (HART)
www.hartoftexas.org; 214.332.9535
Legacy Boxer Rescue, Inc.
www.savetheboxers.com; 1.877.5BOXERS
North Texas Rabbit Sanctuary
www.ntrs.org; ntrs_tx@yahoo.com
North Texas Samoyed Rescue, Inc.
www.nortexasamrescue.org; 214.350.1953
Saving Pyrs In Need (SPIN)
www.SPINrescue.org; 972.681.8585
Save The Animals Rescue Society (STARS)
www.starspets.com; 972.459.9181
Scottie Kingdom Rescue, Inc.
www.scottiekingdom.com
Southern Star MinPin Rescue, Inc.
www.ssmpr.org; 1.866.331.PINS
Straydog, Inc.
www.straydog.org; 903.479.3497
Tassie's Hope Animal Rescue
www.tassieshope.org; 214.550.2648
Texas Animal Shelter Coalition
 817.392.3737; www.sheltercoalition.com
Texas Tailwaggers Village Rescue
txtailwaggers@aol.com; txtailwaggers.petfinder.org
Westie Rescue of North Texas
 214.432.7541; www.wrnt.org