

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPED PETS FIND NEW HOMES



Duke, adopted 3/4/23



Scamp, adopted 6/10/23



Many of our happy adopters and their new pets in 2023



MARSHFIELD AREA
PET SHELTER
MAPS, the road home
3500 DOWNWIND DRIVE
MARSHFIELD, WI 54449

THANK YOU FOR CARING!

Every year more than \$280,000 is needed to keep our doors open to help animals.

Your support allows us the resources to provide precious pets with a warm bed, a full belly, and medical care probably for the first time in their lives. YOU make it possible to pay our valuable employees, our occupancy expenses and other much needed supplies to keep us running smoothly. We could not do THIS without YOU!

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR! Your donation will be matched up to \$15,000!

From the bottom of our hearts, **THANK YOU!**

Please **DONATE** and remember to spay & neuter and microchip your pets!

TO RECEIVE UP-TO-DATE NEWS AND EVENTS, JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.MARSHFIELDPETSHELTER.ORG



MARSHFIELD AREA
PET SHELTER
MAPS, the road home

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The board of directors serves as the governing body for the organization. All members are volunteers. The board reviews and approves operational policies, oversees fundraisers and distributions of shelter funds, and supports staff to fulfill the mission of the organization.

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3500 DOWNWIND DR
MARSHFIELD, WI 54449
715-486-5140

MAPS UNLEASHED

FALL/WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Message from Karen Rau, Executive Director

My dad and I talk a lot about the shelter. He often comments to me, "What did those poor animals do before the shelter (MAPS)". I always tell him, "I try not to think about it." Prior to MAPS, homeless animals had very poor outcomes. The impact we are seeing today, thanks to our state-of-the-art facility, our dedicated staff, committed volunteers and generous community support, is significant. THOUSANDS of cats and HUNDREDS of dogs have benefited from our organization.

As the founder of MAPS, now in our twelfth year, I never imagined all the situations we would encounter. Every day, we come to work not knowing what the day will bring. Some days we rejoice in the progress of a sick kitten or we celebrate the adoption of one of our long term pets. Other days we face a neglect or abuse case or an animal abandoned at our facility.

Our work is emotional and really hard some days. I've spent many nights driving home with tears in my eyes. Rest assured, our job is very rewarding.

I know it sounds cliché every time we say 'your support means the world to us', but it really does. It truly inspires us. Supporting us goes a long way in helping us feel appreciated and optimistic that the work we do every day for innocent animals is valued and meaningful. Support comes in many different forms ... monetary support sustains us, supply donations enable us, and kindness encourages us.

BTW, my dad is 86 years old and a generous supporter of the shelter. Not only does he donate monetarily, he also drives our pets to surgery twice a week at the Humane Society of Portage County in Plover, he mows our lawn and shovels our snow and even fosters kittens!

PLEASE DONATE!

WWW.MARSHFIELDPETSHELTER.ORG

BEFORE & AFTER PHOTOS



Cutie came to the shelter in big trouble. She was severely malnourished, she had a huge, infected wound on her neck, an upper respiratory infection, and she wasn't eating. For days she could barely lift her head, and we feared she would not survive, but we never gave up on her.

Today, Cutie is living her best life in her new home.



Foxy was discovered living under a trailer in a mobile park. As soon as she arrived, staff members got to work, giving her a much needed haircut and bath. A happy pup was revealed under all that matted and dirty fur. It didn't take long for her to find her forever home.

Foxy is now living with her new family and a canine brother.



Kipper was only a few weeks old when he was found in the Weiler Convenience Store parking lot. He was underweight and in very poor health. Under the close supervision of our medical staff, he got a bit better every day and was finally strong enough to go to a wonderful foster home to continue his recovery.

Kipper was adopted with his little kitten friend Pecan.



"Saving one animal won't change the world, but it will certainly change the world for that one animal."

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Record High Animal Intake

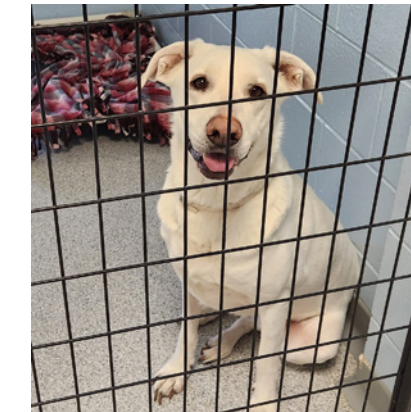
By the end of July this year, we had already taken in more dogs than all of last year. We were receiving weekly, and many times numerous calls per day from pet owners wanting to surrender pets. In September, WSAW News Channel 7 came to ask us why we were seeing a higher volume of animals. We always experience a high number of cats and kittens coming into our facility between April - December, but never the alarming rate of dogs.



Other area shelters were experiencing the same; overwhelmed and over capacity with dogs. Adoption applications for dogs trickled in, unlike other years, when they poured in. So what's going on?

Some would say it's the high cost of living, but few pet owners say they can't afford their pet when they call to surrender. If they do need a little help with food and/or supplies, we direct them to our Free Pet Supply Pantry in our entryway.

Many times owners want to surrender a younger dog, and most times that is because of behavior issues. The timing works out that the dog could have been obtained during Covid, and therefore was under socialized and



under exercised causing unwanted behavior. We also receive calls from pet owners who say they are moving and can't take their pet with them. Is this due to not enough pet friendly housing or poor planning on the owner's part because we usually hear from the owner a few days before they have to move?



What we do think is there are way too many unaltered dogs and too many dogs in need of homes. Puppies are being born at an alarming rate. Some are unwanted litters, and many come from disreputable people who breed puppies for profit. When these breeders can't sell all their puppies, they may ask a shelter to take them or worse. None of the dogs are spayed/neutered.

Many people do not realize what a 'backyard breeder' is. Those ads in the paper that state, "No Sunday Calls", are

backyard breeders whose sole interest is to make a profit from selling puppies. The adult dogs live in deplorable conditions.

The bottom line is, do your research before getting a dog, spay and neuter your pets and adopt from a shelter! Pets are already spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Many wonderful pets are just waiting for their new forever home.



Your generous donation supports our lifesaving work.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!



Thanks to the generosity of the following donors, your donation today will be DOUBLED up to **\$15,000!**

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