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# THE woof & purr POST

## The Benefits of Microchipping

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### 1. A microchip won't get lost or break.

A microchip is permanent and has its own identifying number for your pet. You might also want to add a tag to the collar that has the phone number for the microchip database.

### 2. Microchipping is a quick and easy procedure that doesn't require anesthesia.

A microchip is made of surgical grade glass, and it's about the size of a grain of rice. There won't be any allergic reaction or other side effects to microchipping a dog due to its inert and biocompatible composition.

Insertion of a microchip is more like an injection between the shoulder blades and less like surgery.

### 3. A microchip lasts a lifetime.

You won't have to get another chip. Nothing will wear out. It has no moving parts that can malfunction, and no battery that can die and need replacing or recharging.

### 4. Your personal information is private and secure.

Scanning a chip will only give access to a unique set of numbers which leads to a microchip company who will give your contact information to the vet or other staff.

### 5. Information can be updated anytime, anywhere.

It's always possible to update your data, and your pet isn't physically involved in the process. Be sure to contact the microchip company if you move or if any other information

changes. Giving them information for one or more secondary contacts such as friends or family is a good idea in case you are not readily available.

### 6. Microchipping is a one-time cost.

The microchip requires no maintenance and never has to be replaced. Sometimes the cost may even be covered in the adoption fee as is the case with Pet Allies. There may be an additional fee to register with the microchip company.

### 7. Microchipping has been proven to be effective in locating lost pets.

According to a study cited in an article on Ollie Blog, 73% of stray dogs and cats with microchips were located and went back home. Keeping your information current with the microchip company, of course, is vital.

### 8. Most shelters and vets have microchip scanners.

Certainly, a microchip needs a scanner to be of any use. But almost all vets and animal control services have scanners. When an animal is taken to a vet or a shelter, it is scanned in case it has a microchip number. The microchip company is contacted for the owner's information. The registered owner is then contacted.

When it comes to protecting your pet, it makes sense to use as many measures as possible. A tag with your phone number plus a microchip is a great safeguard combo.

# Happy Tails

## Muddy

We received a lovely note from April D. who adopted Muddy, one of our favorite former Pet Allies Animal Shelter residents, who we transferred to one of our partner organizations for a change of scenery.



She wrote, "I just wanted to let you know where Muddy ended up (Phoenix) and that his name is still Muddy—the perfect name! I was looking at his vaccination records today and saw he came from your shelter, and I just wanted to thank you for sending him to Arizona Animal Welfare League, because he is my BEST FRIEND".

"He is my first dog and he is such a good one! He has a great life. I work from home so he's basically never alone, and everyone calls him an "only child" because my boyfriend and I pay him A LOT of attention. He loves camping and other dogs, and HATES swimming and costumes". *<see less than enthused face in above photo>*

April also stated that "He never barks except in a true emergency, loves dirty socks (disgusting), runs laps around the yard with my boyfriend when he gets home from work every day, and if my boyfriend doesn't take him out to run laps IMMEDIATELY, he stomps his paw at us".

"Anyway, thank you again for being kind to my dog!"

# THANK YOU!

***Throughout the year, we have been humbled by the generosity of so many kind folks in our community. From the smallest donation to the larger gifts, we appreciate the support. YOU are positively Altering Lives.***

## ALL SPIFFED UP

Thanks to Karen Beebe and Dawn George, the former Barkin' Basement building and current Pet Allies Spay/Neuter Clinic got a bit of a facelift. Weeding and landscaping, cleaning and painting were just a few of the important tasks recently done to make the building more pleasing to the eye of a potential buyer.

We think the "curb appeal" of the clinic is greatly improved.



## FOR SALE!

Pet Allies has property located at 4050 S. White Mountain Rd. in Show Low where we currently have our clinic and the property is FOR SALE. We are getting ready to relocate the veterinary clinic to our new shelter location at 1321 N 16th Street in Show Low..

Pet Allies has occupied this property since 2007, and it consists of .22 acres zoned commercial, has two buildings, one at 902 sq. ft., and one at 2107 sq. ft. The property has a conditional use permit for a thrift store.

Please direct all questions to RJ Owens, Director, at the shelter 928.537.8009. That phone is answered Monday-Saturday

11-4 and Sunday 11-3. The asking price for the property is **\$295,000.00**. The property has city water and sewer, and it has allowed Pet Allies to save many lives. We hope it will be a great location for you or someone you know as well! Please help us spread the word.



# More Happy Tails

## Dusty

*written with help from "Mom", Joyce B*

My mommy and daddy always take us on road trips and when we get where we are going my mommy pushes us in our doggie stroller (and we have water bowls and toys and if it is hot mommy freezes large bottles of water to keep us cool along with cooling towels and battery-operated fans). I have to admit, I am not good rider on road trips.

I get nervous and I either ride on my mommy's lap or sit on my older brother in the back

seat and then once we get back to the hotel room or back to our travel-trailer we crash on the bed and take a nap with daddy. Oh, and at home my mommy works during the day and my daddy is home with us because he works at night so we are very seldom left at home alone. I guess you can literally say we are two very spoiled fur babies.

My mommy says that adopting me and my brother are the best things in her life and we love



our mommy and daddy so much and they both love us with their whole heart.

## Dusty



# let your dog learn by sniffing!

excerpt from Reddit



Dogs learn about their surroundings through their noses. What dog has been here? What is this interesting smell emanating from this green bin? Oh is that what snails smell like? There is a great misconception about walking dogs, that owners think the enriching part of the walk is the act of walking itself, when in fact its the sniffing your dog gets to do!

Your dog gets the opportunity to think, learn, and satisfy an innate behaviour. Think of it this way, you get satisfaction by scrolling through reddit, but if someone made you sit too far away from the screen, and scrolled by things that appear to be potentially interesting, it wouldn't relax you, it would likely do the opposite!

Next time you're out with your dog, try giving them ample sniffing time, you'll likely end up with a happy, calmer pup!

## CHECK YOUR INSURANCE POLICY

Did you adopt a dog after you purchased your home? It's possible that your insurance policy could exclude your dog from coverage based on its breed. The insurance industry uses dog breed lists to place limitations on coverage. Even though the insurance community's standard-setting organization NAIC does not agree with this practice.

Three groups of people are adversely affected by breed lists: uninformed consumers, people of color, and consumers of low or moderate means. Uninformed consumers might be people who adopted the dog after they already had insurance in place. Would you think to report that you adopted a dog to your home owners' insurance company? You might find out after an incident, not only a bite, it could be knocking someone down by jumping on them in excitement.

Many are denied insurance and unaware that are other options to get coverage. You don't have to move, turn your pet into a shelter, or go without insurance.

While the vast majority of insurance carriers use dog breed as a factor in determining whether to issue a policy State Farm is taking a more realistic

approach by partnering with the USPS, whose employees are at high risk of a dog bite, to teach people about dog bite prevention. Veterinarians, rescue organizations, AKC, and more recommend that it is the dog's individual history, behavior, and other similar incident related factors that determine if a dog will cause a serious bite injury. This is a complex issue.

What can be done now? Effective laws that hold the owner responsible for custody and control of their dog regardless of breed and encourage responsible pet ownership. Laws that focus on the behavior of BOTH dog owners and dogs. Double check that your policy does not exclude the breed of dog you own. Call around and get price comparisons. You have options and there are insurance carriers such as State Farm who will insure those of us with what some consider more aggressive breeds.

Those most commonly excluded are: pit bull, mastiff, German Shepherd, Akita, Staffordshire Terrier, Chow Chow, Alakan Malamute, Doberman Pinscher, Great Dane, Siberian Husky, Rottweiler, Presa Canario and wolf hybrids.



Plan ahead for your pet's future & become a member of

# Legacy Friends

Have you decided to include Pet Allies in your will or trust? Or is Pet Allies included as a beneficiary on your IRA, 401k or life insurance? Then let us know and become a member of Legacy Friends!

A benefit of being a member of Legacy Friends is the Legacy Care program. With Legacy Care, if you predecease your pets, Pet Allies will accept the pets and find them a new home. Of course, we would do that anyway. But with Legacy Care, you can provide us with details about your pet's likes, dislikes, diet, and veterinary records. We will update this information with you periodically to make sure we have everything we might need if your pets need to find new homes.

It is hard for a pet lover to think about the confusion and fear a pet would have if their loving home was suddenly disrupted by the death of their owner. But Pet Allies can help ease the fear and help find the pet a new home using the information that we have in our Legacy Care files.

To be frank, we can't really depend on our friends or relatives to take our pets if anything happens to us. They may have good intentions, but a pet may disrupt their lives and they just might not love the pet the way you do. Legacy Care can act as a back-up plan so your pet doesn't end up at the vet or in a home where they aren't loved and cared for.

**To enroll or for more information, please contact Daphne Grace at [daphne@petalliesaz.org](mailto:daphne@petalliesaz.org).**

## Foster Homes Always Needed

Please call 928 537-8009 if you are interested in providing a foster home to an animal in need. Sometimes it's a litter of puppies or kittens who need extra attention and sometimes it is an adult animal struggling to thrive in a sometimes chaotic and always loud shelter environment. Want more information? Visit our website or give us a call!

One study showed out of **7,700** stray animals at animal shelters, pets with microchips were returned home far more often.



**52.2%**  
of dogs were reunited with their owners

**38.5%**  
of cats were reunited with their owners



Compared to dogs & cats without microchips.

## CONSIDER THE COSTS OF A PET (AND THE SAVINGS BY ADOPTING FROM PET ALLIES)

The adoption of a dog or cat from a local animal shelter can be a wonderful thing. You are helping an animal in need by giving the animal a loving home and proper care. However, one must consider the costs of that care over the course of your pet's lifetime, as *having a pet IS a lifetime commitment*.

Some costs are once-in-a-lifetime costs and the shelter you adopt from, as is the case with Pet Allies, may have already taken care of some of them. Spay/neuter surgery for example is a one-time cost and every animal out of our Shelter is spayed or neutered. Permanent identification is another consideration with micro chipping costing about \$50 on average for the chip and implantation (done by a veterinarian) and ranging from free to \$35 to register with a nationwide database. All animals adopted from Pet Allies are micro-chipped but not all shelters provide this.

The shelter you adopt from may have provided initial vaccinations and de-worming. Pet Allies provides a one-year rabies shot for every animal adopted out and de-worming if needed. However, it is always a good idea to take your new pet to the vet for a wellness exam within the first few days following adoption. There, the veterinarian can answer questions on flea and tick treatments, nutrition and healthcare

and start your new furry family member on other vaccinations that protect against distemper, kennel cough and more. Expect the visit and treatments to be \$75-275 depending on the veterinarian and vaccinations recommended. Your pet should be seen by a veterinarian annually for a check-up, just like you!

If your new dog isn't house-trained yet, a training crate is necessary to prevent house-soiling or household destruction. Some shelters rent out crates to new adopters for a nominal fee. Pet Allies loans them out for free. Alternatively, expect to pay \$50-200 to purchase a new one, depending on the size of the dog. While steep, it is much less expensive than replacing wall-to-wall carpeting or your favorite chair! Many folks get rid of their crates once their pets are trained and so reasonably-priced used crates are often available through many internet auction sites, local want ads or garage sales.

Items such as collars, leashes, toys and beds run the price gamut. A nylon collar and leash set can be had for around \$15. Training head halters or harnesses average \$30. Chew toys are quite reasonable as are tennis balls and other toys. Heavy rubber food-dispensing toys generally cost \$10-30 and can do a lot

for dogs that could benefit from some mental stimulation. Bedding can run from single to triple digits depending on size and materials. Cats need a few toys, a litter box and of course the litter itself which ranges greatly depending on scoop able, clumping, all-natural, etc.

Pet food will most likely be your biggest expense over time. Costs vary depending on the type (canned or kibble), quality (generic, basic or premium) and amount needed.

Nothing beats premium quality kibble for producing comparatively small, easy-to-pick-up feces. Talk to your local pet food supplier or veterinarian for suggestions and information on the right foods for your new pet.

The return on your investment in love and companionship is immeasurable, however, these costs are part of pet ownership and so make sure you budget appropriately before bringing little Mittens or Skipper home.

If you have any questions on your pet's care please call the Pet Allies Animal Shelter at 928-537-8009 or email us at [info@petalliesaz.org](mailto:info@petalliesaz.org), and we will try and get you answers!



Pet Allies Animal Shelter  
1321 N 16th Street  
Show Low,, AZ 85901

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4050 S White Mountain Rd.  
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