



FAQs



We believe that human compassion is critical to the elimination of animal suffering. Through shelter operations and adoptions, income based public clinic services, educational programs, wildlife triage, and numerous animal welfare partnerships, the Virginia Beach Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals strives to create a more humane and responsible community. Over 2,500 domestic animals come through our caring organization annually, and the VBSPCA relies on the generosity of donors, the collaboration of community partners, and the resources within the Hampton Roads community to provide compassionate care to these animals every day.

What does VBSPCA stand for and what is the mission?

VBSPCA stands for Virginia Beach Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The mission of the Virginia Beach SPCA is to create a more humane and responsible community by eliminating animal suffering while increasing human compassion.

Is the VBSPCA connected with the ASPCA?

No. The VBSPCA is a private, nonprofit charitable organization supported by contributions from the public. In fact, all SPCAs and humane societies are independent from each other, and each has different policies and programs. The VBSPCA is dedicated to the animals of Hampton Roads. The Virginia Beach SPCA is also not affiliated with Virginia Beach Animal Control which is a city agency.

What is the VBSPCA's spay/neuter initiative?

The VBSPCA works to reduce pet overpopulation by spaying/neutering all adoptable animals and offering affordable services to the community through our clinic and Neuter Scooter.

How is the VBSPCA funded?

The VBSPCA is an independent private, nonprofit organization and we rely on the community for support. We receive very little federal or state funding (less than 1%), and our annual operating budget comes from clinic fees, adoption fees, donations, and fundraising events. Medical expenses alone average over \$400,000 per year making community support critical. Our partnership with Purina provides pet food for our shelter animals.

What is included in the adoption fees?

The VBSPCA accepts and adopts cats, dogs, and small animals. Adoption fees cover a portion of an animal's sheltering costs, which total \$585 on average. VBSPCA adoption fees also include a microchip, 30 days of pet insurance, our Welcome Home Guide and Pet Parent Resource Library, and puppy training classes. Additionally, the VBSPCA Miracle Medical Fund covers the cost of essential medical care including spay/neuter surgeries, vaccines, preventatives, senior bloodwork, and a veterinary exam.

How do animals end up at the VBSPCA?

Owner relinquishments:

People who are no longer able to care for a pet for a variety of reasons may choose to relinquish to the VBSPCA.

Transfers from other shelters:

The VBSPCA works with a number of shelters across Virginia and surrounding states for animal transfers. Often, shelters who are full and unable to take in animals in their area will reach out and request to transfer animals to us. Additionally, we take in animals from shelters impacted by natural disasters and have received transfers from the Gulf Coast and Puerto Rico following devastating hurricanes.

Is the VBSPCA a no-kill shelter?

No. However, over 90% of animals that come to the VBSPCA are adopted. Each animal goes through a thorough assessment before being made available for adoption. Animals who do not respond to behavior therapy, pose a risk to the community, or suffer from untreatable health issues are not made available for adoption. Animals are never euthanized based on available space.