



Newsletter – March 17th, 2020

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Best Friends has been working with the Georgia Department of Agriculture to find a solution to allow licensed shelters to perform return to field for community cats within the confines of the GDA rules and regulations for licensed shelters. In October, we reached out to local municipal leaders to ask them to contact GDA directly to let them know they support community cat programs in their municipality. We were able to get responses from a total of 16 municipalities so thank you to all of you who shared your support. We are hoping to hear back from GDA about next steps soon.

GLYNN COUNTY CCP SUCCESS

Glynn County Animal Control and No Kill Glynn County started a TNR partnership in 2019. All feral cats who come into GCAC are fixed and vaccinated by GCAC and then transferred to NKGCC for safe relocation. Previously, all feral cats were euthanized at GCAC.

COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads across the United States and the state of Georgia, it has left many shelters wondering how to protect their employees while still serving the community.

Some shelters are closing to the public completely, others are doing adoptions by appointment only. The need is clear: reduce intake and move as many animals to foster or adoption as is possible. This will reduce the daily burden on staff and make staff shortages easier to navigate.

Below are some resources from national organizations:

[Best Friends](#)

[National Animal Care and Control Association](#)

[Maddie's Fund](#)

[Humane Society of the United States](#)

This is a scary time for shelters and we need to support each other now more than ever. If you'd like to chat with other Georgia Shelters about their response, please join our Facebook page and check the COVID-19 post. American Pets Alive! also has a [Facebook](#) page set up for shelter support. If you're doing a foster or adoption promotion, or closing to the public, let Carrie know so we can track shelter's response statewide.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members: Animal Ark Rescue, North Georgia Animal Alliance, PAWS Atlanta and Paulding County Animal Control. We are up to a total of 34 member organizations across the state.

Haven't joined yet? Application is [here](#).

FACEBOOK GROUP

Representatives from GASA member organizations can join the closed Facebook group [here](#) to share ideas and keep each other updated.

What are you working on? We would love to share your success to the rest of the alliance in the next newsletter.