



Shelter Spotlight

By Kit Belcher, Executive Director

“Help Stop Animal Cruelty!”

Did you know that each of us have a responsibility to look out for the animals in our neighborhoods? Each of us can help make the world a safer place for animals. Here are a few suggestions on how you can help.

Be Aware

By being aware, perhaps you will be more likely to notice that a dog down the street that was once very hefty has lost weight rapidly – this could be an indicator of abuse.

Learn To Recognize Animal Cruelty:

These are some signs & symptoms seen in abuse cases.

- Wounds on the Body
- Extremely thin, starving animals.
- Limping
- Heavy flea and tick infestation
- Animals left alone frequently without food/water
- Animals who are kept outside without shelter in extreme weather conditions.
- Animals that cower in fear when approached.
- Animals that act aggressively when approached by their owners.

Know Who To Call to Report Animal Cruelty

- This could be your local Police Department, Township Animal Control Officer or the Minnesota State Federated Officer. Any details you can provide such as what you witnessed, who was involved, where it took place, and the

date it took place will help the investigator with the animal cruelty case.

Know Your State's Animal Cruelty Laws and the penalties in your state. These may vary from city to city.

Set A Good Example for Others

- If you have pets, show them love and good care that they deserve. This is more than just food/water. If your animal is sick, take it to the Veterinarian. Be sure to have your pets spayed or neutered, and hug and pet them when they arrive back at home.

Talk to Your Kids About How To Treat Animals

-Teach your children that animals need to be treated with kindness and respect and need fresh food and water each day.

Finally, support your local shelter or animal rescue operation. Check on Foster Care, Volunteering or just coming in to spend an hour or two with the animals. It can be a very rewarding experience!

Beltrami Humane Society has 45 cat kennels and 28 dog kennels which are filled 90% of the time. Many days we are full to capacity. As a responsible pet owner, I want to remind you to take proper care of your animals. They need shelter, food and water on a daily basis. They should have current vaccinations and you can even choose to have your animal microchipped. Watch your Buyline articles for upcoming dates that the Beltrami Humane Society will be offering micro chipping.

Check our website at www.beltramihumane.com to view pictures from our photo gallery of our current animals up for adoption. You will also see them on www.petfinder.com. Visit us at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN. Hours of operation are Tuesdays thru

Saturdays, 12-5:30 p.m. Our phone number is (218) 751-7910. Pictures are posted at your local Walmart Store as we are participants of the "Very Best Pet Network".

Our weekly features are "Yukon" and "Lexie". "Yukon" is a 'special needs' dog as he was born with a slight hind leg deformity. He may have slight hip dysplasia. He is a male, 8-9 mos old and coloring of a teddy bear. "Lexie" is a male black lab/shep-x. He is highly energetic and loves being out on the trails. He would like a lot of attention and does not like other dogs until he gets to know them. He would like a lot of space to run and play.

Upcoming Events: "Basket Of Thanks". For \$10.00, you can sponsor a shelter animal providing it with a very special Thanksgiving Treat and a brand new toy over the holiday as it waits for its forever home. An acknowledgement of your gift will be posted at the shelter and you will receive a picture of your sponsored pet. Thank you for caring about the homeless animals!

Shelter Wishes: Cat Chow, Kitten Chow, Medical \$\$ for vaccinations and medications. Paper Towels, Laundry Supplies.

Remember, "Shelter Animals Make Great Companions!"