

APRIL 20, 2022



# The MCFA News

Monroe County Friends of Animals

[monroecountyfriendsofanimals.org](http://monroecountyfriendsofanimals.org)

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## Advocate

UPDATE on House Bill 2860/Senate Bill 2243, which would make it illegal to restrain a dog while a natural or manmade disaster is imminent or occurring, including severe flooding, tornados, and during evacuation orders. On April 18, the bill was presented on the Senate Floor and failed to receive a constitutional majority. It was referred to the committee on calendar and rules. Please continue to contact our representatives to urge them to vote yes.

*Senator Mike Bell: (615) 741-1946 / [sen.mike.bell@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:sen.mike.bell@capitol.tn.gov)*

*Rep. Lowell Russell: (615) 741-3736 / [rep.lowell.russell@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.lowell.russell@capitol.tn.gov)*

## Call for Volunteers



Recently, a friendly volunteer offered to build the wooden framework needed for our "Future Site of Monroe County Animal Shelter" sign, soon to be posted on the new MCFA property. We're always in need of volunteers. If you have skills you're willing to share, please let us know: computer skills, painting, construction, good with people, sales, +more. **Right now, we especially need grant writers.** Your skills and efforts will be much appreciated by this 501C3 organization, and you may be able to deduct mileage and materials on your tax return. Please complete the application on the Volunteer page of our website, or email us at [info@MonroeCountyFriendsofAnimals.org](mailto:info@MonroeCountyFriendsofAnimals.org).



## Ramp Festival

Saturday, April 23, 10am-4pm

Tellico Plains Community Center, 132 Bank Street

MCFA is excited to participate in the 10th Annual Ramp Festival in Tellico Plains this weekend. We will have a booth/tent with animals, information about volunteering, foster care, the new building, and mascots. There will be many vendors on site and live entertainment all day. Outside seating will be limited, so bring your lawn chair. A special ramp dinner of eggs with ramps, potatoes, bacon, pinto beans, and cornbread will be served 11am-2pm for \$15. Child's meal (hotdog and chips) available for \$5. All meals include a drink and dessert. Admission and parking are free.

Please come out to support us and have a good time! If you'd like to help us at the booth by covering a short shift, please email Merilu Odell: [modell@monroecountyfriendsofanimals.org](mailto:modell@monroecountyfriendsofanimals.org)



## Highlights

- Advocate
- Call for Volunteers
- Ramp Festival
- Awareness
- Current Shelter Needs
- Inspiration from the Executive Director



National Lost Dog Awareness Day

APRIL 23



*Monroe County Friends of Animals Thrift Store is a major source of revenue supporting our mission.*

### Thrift Store Special

4/20-23

50% off Adult Clothes

50¢ Kids Clothes!

MCFA Thrift Store is open

Wednesday – Saturday

10am – 4pm

423-420-3423

3949 Highway 411, Madisonville, TN

To learn more about sales & volunteering at the Thrift Store, visit the [Our Programs](#) page of our website.





The CDC, WHO, and FDA recently released scientific data detailing how COVID-19 spreads between animals and humans. Pets can become seriously ill or even die from the virus. As a pet owner, it's important to stay informed, observe protocols to keep your pet safe, and remain vigilant for any signs of illness.

The image on the right provides tips on what to do to keep your pet safe. A couple things you should NOT do are: 1) Do not mask your pet, 2) Do not wipe or bathe pets with chemical disinfectants, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or hand sanitizer.

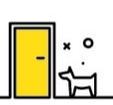
If you are sick with COVID-19, avoid close contact with your pet. Wash your hands before and after interacting with pets and their food, waste, and supplies. Wear a face mask. Do not share food, eating utensils, cups, or bedding.

Signs your pet might have the virus include: fever, coughing, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, lethargy, sneezing, runny nose, eye discharge, vomiting, diarrhea. If your pet has any of these symptoms, isolate them and call your vet.

## Awareness



### TO KEEP YOUR PET SAFE AT HOME:

 <b>LIMIT CONTACT</b> between your pet and people outside the household as much as possible	 <b>KEEP PETS INDOORS IF POSSIBLE</b>	 <b>WALK DOGS ON A LEASH AND MAINTAIN AT LEAST 6 FEET DISTANCE</b> from other people and animals	 <b>AVOID CROWDED DOG PARKS OR PUBLIC PLACES</b>	 <b>REGULARLY WASH</b> food and water dishes, toys, and bedding
 <b>CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN FOR YOUR PET</b> if you get sick with COVID-19	 <b>HAVE AT LEAST A TWO-WEEK SUPPLY</b> of pet food, treats, and cat litter	 <b>HAVE A 30-DAY SUPPLY</b> of pet medication	 <b>ENSURE PET MEDICAL RECORDS</b> are up-to-date, including microchip and vaccine information	 <b>CATS ARE PARTICULARLY SUSCEPTIBLE</b> to infection with COVID-19 – people and pets should avoid contact with strays



## Current Shelter Needs



Can you open your home and heart to an animal in need? **FOSTERING** is a highly rewarding experience that benefits homeless animals and is fun for you and your family! We are currently in need of people to foster both cats and dogs of all ages. animals The shelter is not a home. Please visit the Foster page of our website for more info.

Donations of the basics are always needed and welcome. Right now, we have a **particular need for bleach and liquid laundry soap**. We always appreciate donations of collars, leashes of all types, and toys (gently used/loved is fine). You can drop them off at the shelter or ship directly. Please visit the Shelter Wish List page of our website for more info.

## Inspiration from the Executive Director

"Humanity's true moral test, its fundamental test...consists of its attitude towards those who are at its mercy: animals." –Milan Kundera

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