

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Home Sweet Home

NAPPS Encourages Potential Pet Parents to Consider Adoption, When Searching for a Furry Family Member

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. September 7, 2012— The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals, calls attention to the millions of pets living in animal shelters—all waiting to be adopted and welcomed into a loving home.

According to The Humane Society of the United States, an estimated 6-8 million animals are homeless pets, living in animal shelters. Each year, approximately 4 million of these animals are euthanized. While these numbers may seem overwhelming, there is a solution: adopt from a shelter.

“Not all animals living in shelters have behavior problems or have been traumatized and abandoned by their pet parents,” said John D’Ariano, president of NAPPS. “This is a common misconception. Many of the animals living in shelters are mature, trained pets, looking for a loving home and a caring family.”

While animal shelters have been notoriously portrayed as the “dog pound” for the unwanted and the bad, many of them are actually functioning community centers for homeless pets. These shelters serve as a temporary home to many breeds of cats and dogs—even purebreds. An animal can become a shelter resident for various reasons, one possibility is that its pet parent experienced a change in job and relocated to a community that was not pet-friendly. Regardless of the history, all animals living in shelters share a common need: to be adopted and cared for by a human companion.

If you’re considering becoming a pet parent, but aren’t sure if adoption is right for you, consider the following:

- Are you constantly on-the-go or at the office? Consider becoming a pet parent to a more mature animal that has already been house-trained. Young pets require many frequent bathroom breaks and if they aren’t properly house trained, there will likely be accidents.
- When it’s time to sit and relax, do you want a pet companion who will join you on the couch?
- Is your “ideal” pet pal house-trained?
- Are you seeking a furry friend who will be faithful and loyal?

Chances are, if you answered ‘yes’ to these questions, adopting a pet from an animal shelter is the ideal approach to finding a furry friend to fit your lifestyle. Visit your local shelter and discuss your needs and preferences with the staff; they’ll work to find a match that lasts—one that fulfills your needs and the animal’s needs.

About NAPPS: NAPPS is the only national non-profit trade association dedicated to serving the needs of professional pet sitters. The Association aims to help the pet owning public, those interested in pet sitting, and professionals engaged in the in-home pet care industry by fulfilling its vision statement, serving as “the most respected authority in professional pet sitting.” It does so by providing the tools and support to foster the success of its members. Additionally, pet parents can benefit from NAPPS’ free resources including a disaster preparedness guide, tips on how to select a pet sitter, nationwide referral service, and quarterly teleconferences aimed to educate the pet owning public. To find a pet sitter in your area, check out NAPPS’ nationwide “Pet Sitter Locator” at www.petsitters.org. For more information on NAPPS, please follow [@TheNAPPS](https://twitter.com/TheNAPPS) on Twitter or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/TheNAPPS.

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