

Working to achieve the best quality of life for Michigan's companion animals



THE ASSOCIATION OF SHELTER VETERINARIANS' GUIDELINES FOR STANDARDS OF CARE IN ANIMAL SHELTERS

Second Edition - December 2022

Michigan Pet Alliance is kicking off the new year with a look back at our accomplishments in 2022 and a glimpse of what's to come.

But, first, we have important news to share that the animal welfare world is pretty excited about. The Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV) has issued new guidelines, the second edition to the standards of care originally issued in 2010 as a critical resource for animal care in shelters and home-based rescues.

The second edition of the ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters incorporates shelter medicine advancements and expands on the previous document with two new sections.

Why does this matter to you? These guidelines help dictate the type of care your pet might receive should he or she ever become lost and end up with a rescue or in a shelter. And, you're a compassionate person who wants reassurance that homeless animals in your community are receiving the highest level of care possible.

You can read the new Guidelines at [this link](#).

2023 Michigan Pet Alliance One Voice Conference and Expo

Mark your calendar for the **2023 Michigan Pet Alliance One Voice Conference and Expo, September 20 – 22, 2023**, at the Sheraton Airport Hotel and Conference Center in Grand Rapids.

September							2023
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

A Year In Review

2022 was the first full year of operation for Michigan Pet Alliance. As a new, membership-growing, predominately volunteer-driven nonprofit, it was a busy and productive year. We invite you to join us as we work to improve the quality of care for Michigan's pets.

In 2022, MPA welcomed the following new members:

10 Shelters:

- Adopt-A-Pet

- Capital Area Humane Society
- Delta Animal Shelter
- Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue
- Hope Animal Shelter
- Humane Society of Bay County
- Karma Cat Café
- Little Traverse Bay Humane Society
- Livingston County Animal Shelter
- Muskegon Humane Society

Two Corporations:

- Camp Bow Wow – Hudson
- Sygnifi Networks LLC

Three Nonprofits:

- Midwest Boston Terrier Rescue
- The Pixel & Luna Resource Network
- Second Chance Animal Rescue

45 Individual Members

To join Michigan Pet Alliance, visit our website and [become a member](#). You can also view the full MPA [membership list](#).

MPA Accomplishments

In 2022, the Education & Training Committee:

- Produced five educational webinars for members
- Created the newsworthy “Capacity Crisis” public roundtable with national and local experts that reached more than 200 advocates across the state
- Introduced eight new training modules for the Feline Hands-on In-shelter Training program
- Added a new in-person/online training module for scent enrichment
- Launched two weekly social media series, Training Tip Tuesday and End of Week Enrichment
- Revamped the Shelter Assessment program to better target areas that a shelter identifies as most in need of optimization, now called Blueprint for Excellence; the first shelter to benefit from the newly fashioned program was Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter (UPAWS)
- Secured a location for the 2023 One Voice: Michigan Pet Alliance Conference & Expo, September 2023, Grand Rapids
- Began updating the Canine Hands-on In-shelter Training program

In 2022, the Policy & Advocacy Committee:

- Drafted, and the board approved, three position statements on the topics of euthanasia and surgical alteration, providing best-practice, humane guidance to pet guardians and shelters
- Focused time and attention on five House Bills that were slowing making their way through the Michigan legislature, providing testimony when the opportunity arose
- Identified two additional Michigan bills and one federal effort for MPA to support should the opportunity arise; unfortunately, the legislature was not animal friendly and all of the bills died in committee
- Attended Humane Lobby Day in May, speaking to legislators about animal-friendly bills and opportunities
- Put forth a substantial effort to effect change at Detroit Animal Care and Control In partnership, in exchange and in agreement with the City of Detroit that it would put forth good faith to meet regularly with animal welfare shelter experts to improve the care and lifesaving efforts at the Detroit animal control shelter, MPA attended the mayor’s press conference announcing the city’s plans to build a new shelter. After repeated efforts were made, and ignored, to schedule those meetings, to assist the city and to provide guidance to this severely underfunded

and understaffed operation that relies on transferring a good portion of its animals to other shelters in order to save lives, a detailed petition was sent to the city administration. Unfortunately, the petition and all MPA efforts were disregarded, and Detroit's homeless animals continue to suffer and die. The committee continues to discuss ways of effecting change in Detroit

In 2022, the Membership & Certification Committee:

- Administered the annual, competitive, awards program, distributing \$9,000 in cash and grant funding support provided by the Humane Society of Macomb Foundation
- Produced the 2021 Live Release Rate Report
- Attended four public events in lower Michigan to introduce MPA to the community

So, what's to come this year at MPA?

On behalf of its members, MPA is excited to meet the incoming Michigan legislature, hopeful of working together to craft, introduce, pass and enact animal-friendly legislation, some of which has been stalled for a decade.

Laws that affect our pets, homeless or not, come not only from the state level, but also from the township, city and county levels. This year, MPA will introduce itself to each county government in the state, offering assistance and an invitation to join MPA's efforts.

One of the biggest initiatives of the year takes off this September in Grand Rapids with the 2023 One Voice Conference & Expo, bringing animal welfare experts together for continuing education, networking and so much more.

Monthly webinars, weekly training tips and educational opportunities will continue to grow, and MPA will produce the 2023 grant funding and awards program, as well as the 2022 Live Release Rate Report, ranking shelters by their lifesaving performance.

This is just a sneak peek into what MPA has in store for 2023.

We invite you to become a member and to play a role. Help us reach our goals, surpass our mission, and see our vision of the highest quality of care for pets and an end to animal cruelty and neglect in Michigan.

Upcoming Events

March 13, noon to 1 p.m.: "Playtime and Enrichment for ALL Cats"

In this webinar, cat owners, in-shelter caregivers and foster parents will learn how to ease common behavior problems by keeping a cat engaged in play and mentally stimulated. Cat behavior expert Jess Vankoningsveld will cover proper play techniques designed to encourage a natural progression of behaviors, allowing playtime to be as effective as possible, whether in a home or in the shelter environment.

Register now at www.michiganpet.org/education-and-training/online-training/

Cost to non members: \$25

Free to all MPA members.

[Join MPA](#) and you can attend all webinars in 2023 for free.

FOMO Tip

Don't miss out on free training and educational videos. Subscribe to MPA's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@MichiganPetAlliance

February Member Events

A benefit of MPA membership is free promotion for the upcoming events and fundraisers of member organizations.

Here are a few opportunities to support animal welfare organizations this month:

February 5: [Yoga With Cats](#), Humane Society of Huron Valley

February 11: [Plants for Pets: Houseplant Sale & Raffle](#), Paws for Life

February 18: [Tails and Tunes](#), Noah Project

February 24: [Saginaw Spirit Game](#), Humane Society of Bay County

February 25: [Iosco County Shot Clinic](#), All About Animals

February 25: [Wags & Whiskers](#), Adopt-A-Pet - Fenton

About Michigan Pet Alliance

MPA Vision:

To achieve the best quality of life for Michigan's companion animals.

MPA Mission:

To work in collaboration and speak with a single voice to eliminate abuse and neglect of Michigan's companion animals and to save all healthy and treatable homeless companion animals through training, technical assistance, education, and advocacy.

For more information:

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Michigan Pet Alliance is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization as defined by the IRS (EIN 20-0399162) and is a Guidestar Exchange Platinum Participant.



Contributions are tax deductible.

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