



## Makin' Pawsitive Change, July 2023

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## Michigan Legislative Updates

Legislation is moving in Michigan as our senators and representatives head into summer break, but that doesn't mean it's going to be a quiet summer.

Let's talk about Teddy's Law, Senate Bills 148 and 149.

Under SB 148, research facilities must account for the number of dogs and cats they're using for experimentation, including the total number of dogs and cats owned by the research facility, used for laboratory research and released by the research facility.

Under SB 149, facilities that use cats and dogs for research purposes would be required to offer them to animal shelters for potential adoption prior to being killed.

### The Good News

Teddy's Law passed the Michigan Senate and is now headed to the House.

### The Bad News

Teddy's Law, SB 148, was amended at the last minute to include language that allows the research facilities to hide collected data from the public.

### What We Are Doing About It

MPA and its lobbyists will work diligently through the legislature's summer break to restore the necessary language to Teddy's

## TEDDY'S LAW



Law.

It is critically important that the law holds research facilities accountable, provides transparency and allows the public and animal welfare advocates and organizations to receive the critical data we need and have a right to review.

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## BANNING DECLAW



On June 28, Representative Wilson introduced **House Bill 4883**, which prohibits the cosmetic declawing of cats in Michigan and prescribes civil sanctions for those who violate the law.

HB 4883 is in addition to HB 4674, which was introduced on May 25. Both bills have been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

Sadly, the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) continues to [oppose the bills](#), despite the majority of its membership showing support for the laws.

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On June 22, on the heels of Ann Arbor's [humane acquisition ordinance](#) passing, Representative Tsernoglou introduced **House Bill 4838**, which prohibits pet stores from selling, adopting, exchanging or transferring, or offering for sale a dog, cat or rabbit.

HB 4838 has been referred to the House Committee on Government Operations.

The puppy mill industry wasted no time securing two lobbying firms to fight this humane legislation. We are going to need every voice for animals in Michigan to speak up when the time comes.

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## BANNING PET STORES



*We saved the most exciting news for last.*

On June 27, Representative Koleszar introduced **House Bill 4849**, known as Queenie's Law.

Named after a dog who was killed at

# QUEENIE'S LAW



Wayne State University following continuous, painful, cruel heart failure experiments, Queenie's Law will put an end to that and many other forms of inhumane, tormenting treatment at research facilities.

This life-saving, life-changing legislation will prohibit all experimentation that inflicts pain or distress on dogs and cats at all research facilities in Michigan, including Wayne State, one of our state's greatest offenders.

Please ask your state representative to support Queenie's Law, HB 4849. [Find your state representative's](#) contact information, then take a few minutes from your day to make a call and be their voice.

You can help in other ways too.

If you're not already a member of MPA, [join today](#). Then, reach out to a friend and encourage them to join MPA, too. Your membership will give you a voice in Lansing. Michigan dogs and cats are counting on it to pass laws that protect them today.

## Register Before Conference Sells Out

### 2023 ONE VOICE: MICHIGAN PET ALLIANCE CONFERENCE & EXPO



*Register Today*



September 21-22, 2023  
Sheraton Grand Rapids Airport Hotel



We have exciting additions to the [2023 One Voice Conference & Expo](#) roster of speakers. Check out a few of these newly added, can't-miss sessions:

Everyone who plays a role in matching animals with adopters will want to join April Huntsman from **Adopt-a-Pet.com** for a 90-minute workshop on what applicants search for when looking to adopt, how best to deliver what they're looking for and the success of the owner-to-owner Rehome program.

Get your Return to Home program off the ground with Gina Knepp from **Michelson Found Animals Foundation**. Walk away with a toolkit of immediate action steps. Topics will include lost and found website strategies, using technology and incorporating volunteers.

Change your perspective to better meet the social and emotional needs of the animals in your care. Find your lightbulb moments as **Dr. Frank McMillan** explains social pain, the emotions that arise when one's social bonds with another are impaired or lost. While animal welfare has primarily focused on physical pain and treatment, social pain also plays a powerful role in one's well-being and quality of life.

We want you to join us in Grand Rapids, Sept. 21-22, for an exciting opportunity to network with Michigan's animal welfare community and to learn all about what's new and what's next.

Sign-up for shelter tours of [Humane Society of West Michigan](#) and [Kent County Animal Shelter](#). Scholarships and volunteer opportunities are available. Continuing education credits are also available.

[Register Now](#)

## Calling All Exhibitors

There are still a few open spots for exhibitors at the 2023 One Voice Michigan Pet Alliance Conference & Expo. Thirty exhibitors will be able to take advantage of this opportunity to connect with more than 300 staff, volunteers and advocates from Michigan animal welfare organizations, shelters and rescues at the 2023 One Voice: Michigan Pet Alliance Expo on September 21-21 in Grand Rapids.

The cost for an exhibitor booth is just \$250 and includes a 6-foot table, two chairs, and power and wireless internet access. The deadline to [register as a conference exhibitor](#) is July 31, 2023.



Register to Exhibit at  
Conference











## Sponsor the 2023 One Voice Conference & Expo

Don't miss another opportunity to reach animal welfare advocates and pet owners across the state of Michigan. Join renowned organizations, like Fear Free, Adopt-a-Pet.com and 24Pet, and choose a sponsorship option.

For just \$250, an organization or business can sponsor the Rejuvenation Station or Well-being Session and receive recognition in the conference program and website, as well as in onsite signage.

From sponsoring keynote presentations to sponsoring the Beer & Pretzels ask the experts reception, additional a-la-carte [sponsorship opportunities](#) are available. For more information and payment options, visit the conference website.



Benefits	Keynote Luncheon with Dr. Becker \$1,000	Keynote Luncheon with Denise Evans \$1,000	Any combination valued at \$1,000	Beer & Pretzels Reception \$750
Number of sponsorships available	8	8	4	2 Total 1 for Bar 1 for Snacks
Reserved seating with speaker				
Logo on Conference Swag Bag				
Recognition at General Session				
Opportunity to add promotional items to swag bag				
Recognition in conference program and website				
Onsite signage/ recognition				

Benefits	Continental Breakfast & Breaks \$750	Reserved table of 10, at all 4 General Sessions \$750	Shelter Tours \$500	Wellbeing Session \$250	Rejuvenation Station \$250
Number of sponsorships available	4 Total 2 Breakfast 2 Breaks	28	3 Total 1 Wednesday 1 Thursday 1 Friday	2 Total 1 Thursday 1 Friday	2 Total 1 Thursday 1 Friday
Reserved seating with speaker					
Logo on Conference Swag Bag					
Recognition at General Session					
Opportunity to add promotional items to swag bag					
Recognition in conference program and website					
Onsite signage/ recognition					

[Become a Sponsor](#)

## Holiday Safety for Your Pets

# July 4th

# PET SAFETY TIPS

July 4th weekend is a great time to reminisce with friends and family, to spend time together and to enjoy one another's company. Our pets want in on that family time, too.

Here are some tips to help keep them safe and secure.

## **Fireworks and Loud Noises**

Most pets have a strong reaction to fireworks. The smells, sights and sounds are frightening and can cause animals to experience extreme anxiety or to bolt or escape. If you're going to celebrate with fireworks, please make sure to secure your pets safely inside. Turn on the radio or TV as a distraction. Leave them with busy toys, puzzles or other food-related items. Check on them often.

Remember to pick-up the leftovers! Matches, citronella candles and firework remnants are very easy for pets to ingest and are extremely toxic.

## **Bug Sprays and Sunscreen**

In addition to keeping our pets on heartworm, flea and tick prevention, it's a good idea to use pet-safe bug spray at times when the mosquitos or biting flies are out. There are numerous all-natural, organic, unscented options available.

Pets gets sunburns too! Use a pet-safe sunscreen on pets who will be exposed to the sun, especially those with pink spots and/or pink noses. Those lighter spots are most susceptible to sunburn. To pick the best products, do your homework or ask your veterinarian for a recommendation.

Remember that unless specifically designed for animals, insect repellants and sunscreens can be toxic to pets. Signs of repellent toxicity include drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst and lethargy. DEET, a common insecticide in products for humans, may also cause neurological issues in dogs. Only use pet-safe products.

## **Road Trips**

If you will be traveling this July 4th weekend, make sure to never leave your pet in a car unattended. Temperatures in a car, even on a mild, sunny day, can reach dangerous highs in mere minutes. Even a car parked in the shade with the window cracked does not alleviate the dangers of lack of oxygen and overheating.

Safe travel with pets means securing them in a travel carrier or kennel or using pet-safe seat belts. Even a minor fender bender can send your pets flying through the car. They can be ejected through the window or become a projectile, endangering everyone else in the vehicle. Keep any personal items stashed in your car that your pet might ingest while you're focused on the road, such as tobacco, gum, candy/snacks or medications, out of reach.

Whether you are traveling or not, be sure that your pet is microchipped and that your contact information associated with the chip is current. Make sure your pets are fitted with a collar that has an ID tag containing identifying information. It's your pet's ticket home if something happens.

### **Provide Plenty of Fresh Water**

Pets can become dehydrated quickly, so it is very important to provide plenty of fresh, clean water at all times. Make sure that they have a shady place to get out of the sun. Animals with flatter faces, such as boxers, pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively to cool themselves off. These pets, along with seniors, those who are overweight or who have heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as often as possible.

### **No Human Food or Drinks**

Barbeques are a popular July 4th activity. Grills get hot and they smell great, making them a pet magnet. Ever catch your dog licking every part of the grill they can reach? Dogs will especially see it as invitation to clean-up grease drippings or any scrap they can find, which can lead to burns. So, make sure they can't get to it during your gathering.

Remind your guests not to feed any leftovers or food scraps to your pets, as they may be tempted to toss them a treat from their plate. Our pets are not designed to ingest most human foods, so you could end up with a sick pet, ranging from an upset stomach, vomiting and diarrhea to poisoning. Other foods commonly found at BBQs, like onions, grapes, avocado, raisins and chocolate, are especially toxic to pets.

Other potential dangers at a cookout include citronella torches, campfire sparks and alcohol. Alcohol is very dangerous to our pets. Be sure to keep alcoholic beverages away from animals. Should your pet ingest alcohol or toxic human food, take them to your nearest emergency vet clinic right away.

### **Open Water: Pools and Lakes**

Never leave your pets unsupervised around a pool or lake. Even dogs who can swim can run into trouble. If your pet seems like they would enjoy a swim, introduce your pets to water gradually. Never force them and reward them for every tiny bit of progress they make. Make sure they always wear flotation devices when on boats.

Also, try to keep your dog from drinking pool water, which contains potentially dangerous chemicals like chlorine. Many pool chemicals will cause burns to the mouth, throat and stomach, so it's important to keep a close eye on your pet when they are around the pool. Also, be sure to keep any extra chemicals stored out of paws' reach.

### **Consider Celebrating a Humane Holiday**

Many people love a July 4th barbecue, but not everyone is a carnivore. Remember to provide some vegetarian options for your guests. And, for those who eat meat, eggs or dairy, avoid the worst factory-farmed products. Make sure your July 4th meals are farm-animal friendly by purchasing products that are Certified Humane. The [Certified Humane®](#) Raised & Handled logo means that the food products have come from



operations that meet precise, objective standards for humane farm animal treatment.

In celebration of this holiday, we remember and reflect on the sacrifices made by men, women and animals for the good of our country. We honor them and thank them for their service. Michigan Pet Alliance wishes you a safe and happy July 4th.

## July MPA 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:

July 6: [New Volunteer Orientation](#), Adopt-A-Pet, Fenton

July 9: [Microchip Clinic](#), Pleasant Hearts Pet Food Pantry, Grand Rapids

July 9: [TNR Training](#), All About Animals, Warren

July 12-15: [Festival Ironwood](#), Hope Animal Shelter, Ironwood

July 13: [Yoga With Cats](#), Humane Society of Huron Valley, Ann Arbor

July 14-31: [Flower, Herbs & Seeds Fundraiser](#), Paws for Life Rescue, virtual

July 15: [\\$10 TNR Spay Day](#), Feline Fund, Ann Arbor

July 15: [Beach-less Beach Party](#), Sanilac County Humane Society, Lexington

July 16: [Golf Outing](#), Humane Society of Bay County, Pinconning

July 18: [Culver's Fundraiser](#), Fig and Friends Pet Rescue, Grand Rapids

July 20: [Ales for Tails](#), Harbor Humane Society, Holland

July 20: [Tee Up 4 Tails](#), UPAWS, Marquette

July 29: [Adoption Event](#), Wishbone Pet Rescue Alliance, Holland

**Enjoy the benefits of membership and [join](#) Michigan Pet Alliance today!**

## 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.

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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 Platinum Participant](#).



Contributions are tax deductible.



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