

JASPER COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL FEBRUARY AND MARCH REPORT

The people of the community have really come out and showed their support for the animal shelter. People have donated hundred of pounds of dry dog food, several cases of canned dog food and cat food. There has also been about 100 pounds of dry cat food donated. We've had several dog and cat treats and blankets. Some people have donated some bags of cat litter and a few litter boxes. We had one member of our community donate 6 dog beds to the shelter.

The 2nd grade resource class of Ms. Patsy at Jasper County Primary School held a supply drive for the shelter and gathered lots of donations. They brought toys, food, bowls, treats, dewormer, top spot flea treatment, and blankets. I personally would like to thank them. They did a great job.

There have been several volunteers at the shelter also. I've had two volunteers come two Saturdays in a row to walk dogs, wash dishes, and help clean the kennels. They did a marvelous job and worked well with the dogs. One of those volunteers brought their son on one trip.

I had a couple of volunteers to come in and they bathed 3 puppies that were headed out to rescue that afternoon. The rescue called to say how beautiful and clean the puppies were. We were about the only shelter that had ever sent dogs to them that were clean and they were very impressed. This in the long run will get them to help us more. The rescues want to work with the shelter that has clean, healthy animals.

I've had two volunteers come 3 Fridays in a row to help me clean. This is the day the inmates don't come so I have to clean by myself. She has cleaned the kennel, walked dogs, and this volunteer has even transported dogs to a rescue group. She has paid for a rabies vaccination and heartworm test on one of the dogs at the shelter that went to a rescue. She also paid to have a dog at the shelter neutered so it would be easier to adopt him out.

I had a mother and her son volunteer one Saturday. The mother walked the dogs outside while I cleaned the kennels. The dogs really appreciate time with people and going outside. Her son played with the cats just about all day. The cats just loved that. They also cleaned the cat cages that day too and washed dishes. Her son also helped me set up the clean dog kennels.

I have had a volunteer that comes on a regular basis to help me clean. She also contacted all the people coming to the spay/neuter clinic and gave them their instructions. This volunteer also stayed until early afternoon the day of the clinic to help me with all the things involved with it. She has also fixed the flower bed out front. She has cleaned it out, bought and planted flowers in it, and bought and put mulch in it. The front of the shelter is now bright with colors and very inviting.

I also have had help from another volunteer. She has helped me with posting animals across the internet, putting me in touch with different rescues, transporting animals, and without her the spay/neuter clinic wouldn't have happened. She has done too many things to help the shelter to name.

I have also had a volunteer to transport a dog to Jackson to board while waiting on transport to Pennsylvania. She also transported 2 cats to Locust Grove to Noah's Ark.

The president of Winging Cat Rescue based in New York has vetted and neutered two cats for the shelter so they would be more adoptable. The vetting included vaccinations, combo test, and microchips. She has also spayed one cat. She provides the shelter with FVRCCP vaccinations for the cats.

As anyone can see there has been an outpouring of volunteers and donations from the community as well as outside the community. I just want to say "Thank you." Without the help of people in the community lives would not be saved.

For February and March the shelter has adopted out 17 animals and sent 29 to rescue groups. This is a big change from the shelter we had before. The shelter is now a safe haven for animals. They are all well cared for, get flea treatment, vaccinations, and all dogs have a bed or blanket in their kennel to keep them off the wet concrete floor. Anyone who visits will see dogs that are happy and wagging their tail. The cats all meow and want to be petted. They are happy too.