

ROCKBRIDGE ANIMAL ALLIANCE

Rockbridge, Lexington & Buena Vista, VA

June 2016



Who is RAA?

Rockbridge Animal Alliance (RAA) is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) founded in 2014. Our goal is to work with the public and support other animal-related organizations to improve the

lives of Rockbridge area pets and homeless dogs and cats. We are established to aid in community outreach, humane education, and community assistance programs with an emphasis on access to affordable spay/neuter services. We work closely with Cats Unlimited, RARA, and other local organizations. RAA does not receive any taxpayer/government funding and relies on grants and donations to carry out our mission. All donations are tax deductible. We will not rehome dogs or cats but will help in the process.

Rockbridge Animal Alliance is here to help the animals in Rockbridge County, Lexington, and Buena Vista, through a variety of projects. Since the beginning of 2016, we have given out 16 bales of straw, 6 dog houses, and a feral cat house. While we wish every animal had a dry home to live in, we know this is not realistic. We believe in making outdoor animals as safe and as comfortable as possible. Just recently, we received a donation of a large outdoor kennel, which will be given to an owner to get their dog off a chain.

Pet Food Pantry numbers

Our monthly Pet Food Pantry with Cats Unlimited at the Rockbridge Area Relief Association helps families that are going through financial difficulties healthfully maintain their pets. Since January 2016, we have distributed over 3,500 pounds of pet food. To help stock our pet food pantry, simply drop off new, unopened cat or dog food at Lexington Tractor Supply.

Your support in action.

RAA received a call early this month from a man unable to afford to take his 18-year-old dog to the vet to find out why she had stopped eating. For a small copayment on his part, RAA was able to help the man take his beloved dog to the vet, where she was humanely euthanized due to kidney failure.

Low Cost Spay/Neuter

RAA and Cats Unlimited received a joint grant from the Washington & Lee Community Grants Committee this month to assist residents with the cost of spaying/neutering their pets. RAA's low-cost spay and neuter program offers dog spay/neuter surgery, rabies shot and recovery medications for \$30 to low-income residents. RAA believes that access to affordable spay/neuter services is the



single most important way to prevent unwanted animals. To date, RAA has helped spay or neuter 4 dogs with a handful scheduled for upcoming surgeries. Hounds, pitbull mixes and large dogs are given top priority.

Sable (above) had a life-threatening bacterial infection that would not have been caught had she not been spayed through RAA's program.

How YOU can help

Kroger Community Rewards

RAA is a participating organization in the Kroger Community Rewards program. After you register your Kroger Plus card with the program, a percentage of the amount of your purchases will be donated to RAA and **it doesn't cost you a thing!** To sign up, either 1) go to the community rewards website: krogercommunityrewards.com, login, and choose RAA as your charity, or 2) call Kroger at 1-866-221-4141, give them your Kroger card number, and tell them that you want to support RAA. **RAA just received a check for \$165.16 from Kroger for 14 households that support RAA and shopped at Kroger between March 2016- May, 2016!**

Amazon Smile Do you shop on amazon.com? Amazon will contribute part of your purchase

cost to RAA each time you shop. All you need to do is 1- enter "smile.amazon.com" in your browser address bar, 2- choose RAA as your choice of charity and 3- SHOP.



Viva modeling her Schmittty shirt

T-shirts Our original design by Joe Castro, Schmittty shirts are available in brown or teal for \$20, sizes S-XXL. A play on Smokey the bear, the front of the shirt says "Remember only you can prevent puppy mills" and the back of the shirt says "Schmittty the Pitty says adopt don't shop". We can arrange

local pick up or there is no fee to have them shipped.

Monetary donations can be made via PayPal by going to our website rockbridgeanimalalliance.org or mailed to RAA at PO Box 405, Lexington, VA 24450.

Volunteer There are many ways to volunteer, from hands on work with our various projects to administrative tasks. Some of our most popular volunteer activities include:

- ✓ Grant writing
- ✓ Delivering straw/houses
- ✓ Helping at the monthly pet food pantry
- ✓ Spread the word on social media
- ✓ Hang up flyers
- ✓ Organize a pet food drive
- ✓ Event planning

RAA Membership

Membership is open to all who are interested in furthering RAA's mission to practice and promote responsible pet ownership through education and outreach in the community. Membership dues support our initiatives.

Individual \$25/Family \$30
 Corporate/Business \$50
 Sponsor \$100
 Patron \$250

Your support in action. A very pregnant cat showed up on the doorstep of a Good Samaritan and gave birth to 5 kittens. For a small copayment, RAA helped this person with the vet bill to treat the kittens' eye infections. This person is having the kittens (and mom) fixed and placed into loving homes. That's 5 kittens and one adult cat kept out of the shelter.

Upcoming events:

July 16, 10a-12p, Pet Food Pantry at RARA
 July 30, 8a-?, Fundraiser at Creekside Market in Fairfield
 August 30, 9-3p, Rockbridge Community Festival

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/RockbridgeAnimalAlliance>

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE www.RockbridgeAnimalAlliance.org

