

Stray animal crisis in Central Georgia persists as North Macon resident demands action

LOCAL NEWS > IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD > VALDOSTA

South Georgia animal shelters struggle with overcrowding as euthanasia rates climb

Hosted on MSN · 12mon

**Georgia among the top in the nation for euthanizing shelter animals, report says**

A group that works with local animal shelters to help become no-kill says Georgia had the fifth-highest number of animals euthanized in the U.S. in 2023. Best Friends Animal Society says it is ...

DeKalb County Commission extends animal shelter overflow unit construction contract

Zoe Siller · Mar 25, 2025

JOHNSON COUNTY, Ga. - A Georgia man is facing animal cruelty investigation in middle Georgia.

LOCAL NEWS

**Georgia animal shelters experiencing uptick in dogs being surrendered**

by: Daisy Kershaw  
Posted: Jun 16, 2022  
Updated: Jun 16, 2022

**Animal Lover Is Killed in Dog Attack While Walking to School, Owner Charged**

Charles Blackwell, 55, of Augusta, Ga., is charged with involuntary manslaughter after his dogs allegedly killed 21-year-old Samara Rogers, police allege

By KC Baker · Published on December 30, 2024 11:45AM EST

**Feline parvo outbreak at animal shelter**

owner-surrendered cats

The Athens-Clarke County Animal Services Department is dealing with a feline parvovirus outbreak, which is also known as panleukopenia, which is also known as ...

**Arrest in animal cruelty case reveals 'betrayal' in breeder community**

Enquirer exclusive: Nearly 1,200 dog bites recorded in Columbus over past 3 years

Columbus, GA has seen nearly 1200 dog bites over the past 3 years from Columbus Council on Animal Welfare

**GEORGIA'S HOMELESS PET CRISIS:**

**SPAY/NEUTER IS THE ONLY SOLUTION.**

**DOING NOTHING IS NO LONGER AN OPTION.**

**Atlanta News First on MSN · 10d**

**DeKalb County Animal Services overcapacity.**

According to LifeLine's Facebook page, the situation is deteriorating very quickly.

**Bloomingdale woman being held on no bond, after 9 dogs starve to death in her home, 3 survive**

**Deidra Dukes Reports: Pet overpopulation**

FOX 5's Deidra Dukes does a deep dive into the widespread pet overpopulation crisis.

**'Very disgusted, very hurt' | Forsyth County residents demand action on horrific dog cruelty**

Several dead dogs have been discovered at Shady Oaks Mobile Home Park prompting concerns over animal cruelty.

**Douglas man arrested for animal cruelty after 8 dogs found living in filthy conditions**

**COMMUNITY**

**Animal shelters reach crisis**

**Gwinnett County animal shelter reaches critical capacity, calls for foster homes for animals in need**

Gwinnett County officials said the Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center is at critical capacity and they're looking for ...

**Reward doubles to \$10K in case of severely emaciated puppy abandoned in Cobb County**

The puppy is recovering at the Cobb County Animal Shelter, having gained about four pounds, and will be put up for adoption or placed with a rescue once healthy. COBB COUNTY, Ga. - The reward has ...

**Dept. of AG releases 2024 statistics on animal euthanizations in Georgia shelters**

SAVANNAH, Ga. (WTOG) - New data by the Department of Agriculture revealed just how many animals were euthanized in Georgia shelters this past year. 33,109 is the number of dogs and cats that were ...

**Animal hoarding harrowing animal shelters forcing more**

**0 dogs homes**

**140 dogs as the**

## GEORGIA'S HOMELESS PET CRISIS:

Georgia has had a pet overpopulation problem for many years, but it has reached crisis level in the last 3 years. Our animal shelters are overrun, the state's entire animal welfare infrastructure is overwhelmed, and we have strays in the streets and neglect cases every day.

The effects of the lack of spay/neuter services during pandemic shutdowns and the financial crisis that followed the pandemic have caused this explosion in our homeless pet populations. **22,000 dogs didn't make it out of Georgia's animal shelters alive** in 2024, a **47% increase from 2022**. 152,000 dogs and cats entered Georgia's animal shelters in the last 12 months, at a time when many animal shelters are closed for intakes or are not picking up strays due to overcrowded shelters. This means that the 152k number in reality is significantly higher, perhaps 165k, if animal control agencies were picking up all animals they should and accepting all owner surrenders requested.

This is the situation in Georgia in spite of over 600 nonprofits dedicated to animal welfare operating in the state and in spite of Georgians donating half a million to the GDA's dog and cat sterilization fund each year. The most alarming statistic, however, is that over 94% of those dogs and cats entering Georgia's animal shelters are not fixed. This means that the current means overpopulation crisis will only continue to get worse unless we do something.

The only solution is to get more Georgians to spay and neuter their pets. Many Georgians, however, cannot afford the cost of the surgery. We are asking you to join us in requesting appropriations for spay/neuter funding for disadvantaged/low-income citizens of Georgia.

This request of the state legislature is supported by the fact that this homeless pet crisis is causing:

**IMMENSE TAXPAYER WASTE & FINANCIAL COST TO THE STATE**

**RISKS TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH**

**A STRAIN ON TAXPAYER RESOURCES**

It also exposes:

**THE UNFUNDED MANDATE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENTS AND THE UNMET TAXPAYER NEED FOR POPULATION AND RABIES/DISEASE CONTROL**

## THE FINANCIAL COST OF HOMELESS PETS TO GEORGIA

Too few Georgians spaying and neutering their dogs and cats, a completely preventable problem, costs Georgians > approx. \$140 million annually:

Animal Welfare Non-Profits:	\$ 78 million
Municipal Animal Shelters:	<u>\$ 62 million</u> **
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$140 million</u> *

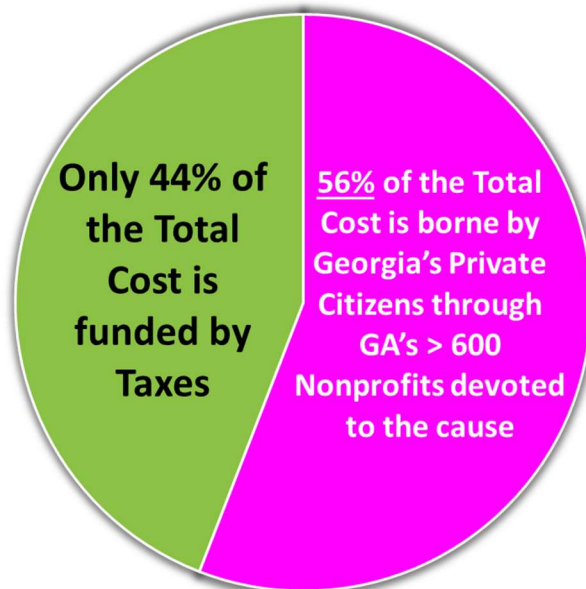
\* This figure DOES NOT INCLUDE Capital Expenditures (such as purchases of new ACO trucks, equipment, and shelter buildings). This figure also does not include the \$ value of 1,000s of hours of free labor provided by volunteers, fosters, networkers, and transporters across the state, utilized by municipal shelters and all non-profits.

\*\* This figure does not include the cost to run the Georgia Dept. of Agriculture's Companion Animal Division's oversight of rescues and shelters.

## UNMET TAXPAYER NEED/UNFUNDED MANDATE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

**CONTROLLING the size of Georgia's HOMELESS PET POPULATION is an important need of Georgia's taxpayers that is NOT BEING MET, as evidenced by Georgia's animal shelters are operating at critical overcapacity, shelter intake data, as well as local news & social media coverage.**

Georgia's non-profit animal welfare organizations, funded by Georgia's taxpayers, (as private citizens), pick up 56%, more than half, of the > \$140 million annual cost to the state. Clearly, the statewide cost of the problem is not being spread fairly, when >50% of households in Georgia own at least one pet, and more than 50% of those own more than one pet.



## Public Safety & Public Health Impacts

Georgia is experiencing increases in:

- dog maulings resulting in injury, lost limbs, or death.
- cruelty and animal hoarding cases.
- Spread of contagious fatal diseases due to increases in unvaccinated pet populations, both in and out of the overcrowded animal shelters:
  - Rabies
  - Parvo
  - Respiratory illnesses

Approx. 81% of all dog attacks involve children, with children between the ages of five and nine at the greatest risk of serious injuries. Georgia has recently had several fatalities from dog bites.

## Taxpayer Dollars Wasted

1) Animal Control agencies are so busy corralling homeless pets; they barely have time to fulfill their most important roles serving the public:

- To Educate: in the form of homes visits or community or school outreach.
- To Enforce local ordinances and state law.
- To Investigate possible:
  - Dogfighting
  - Illegal breeding
  - Cruelty, Neglect, and Hoarding cases
- To Report other crimes. As First Responders they often have first knowledge of situations involving domestic, child & elder abuse.

Animal Control agencies are so busy corralling homeless pets; they barely have time to fulfill their most important roles, which are to educate Georgians on calls, or ins schools, do community outreach, to enforce local ordinances and state laws, to investigate dog fighting, Illegal breeding, cruelty, neglect, and hoarding cases, and to report other crimes. As First Responders they often have first knowledge of situations involving domestic, child & elder abuse.

These increases in cases of hoarding, neglect, cruelty, and dog bites use up precious public resources: local law enforcement: police, sheriffs, code enforcement, and Prosecutors, Judges, Defense Attorneys, and the entire court system.

Each of Georgia's >500 homeless pet shelter & rescue entities (that exist purely because GA has too many homeless pets) require licensing & inspections by GA's Dept. of Agriculture's Companion Animal Division, which does not have the budget to staff enough inspectors to cover all those rescues and shelters.



## SOLUTION WE ARE PROPOSING & ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Till now, Georgia's \$140m per year has been used re-actively to handle the already existing overabundance of pets. Our proposal switches Georgia's current re-active approach to a more pro-active one, one that seeks to prevent homeless pet overpopulation through addressing the cause: not enough Georgians spaying and neutering their pets.

**We are proposing State appropriations for spay/neuter funding to be utilized by Georgia's underprivileged pet owners so they can prevent unwanted litters of puppies and kittens, in the form of either:**

- **An annual match of Georgians' private donations to the existing Dog and Cat Sterilization Fund, approximately \$500k a year**
- OR**
- **Establishing \$10 million dollar trust fund with appropriations that would be invested in order for its earnings to be distributed to Georgia's existing Dog & Cat Sterilization Fund.**

This proposal:

- Seeks to increase sterilizations to return animal shelter populations to normal
- Seeks to allow more Georgians to not only fix their pets but allow them to keep their pets
- Reduces the public safety risks brought on by stray dogs and cats in communities
- Reduces the public health risks of outsized shelter populations contending with contagious disease outbreaks such as Rabies
- Corrects the unfunded mandate of Animal Control placed on county government budgets.
- Recognizes that between 50 and 60% of Georgia's households own at least one dog or cat, and 50% of those households own more than one pet, and therefore pets are a part of the community that affects safety and welfare of human citizens.

If the supply of dogs and cats exceeds the demand for them as pets, their value deteriorates down to zero. It's our contention that re-balancing supply and demand in Georgia will reduce the amount of neglect, starvation, abuse, and other criminal behavior related to animals that we see every day and our ACOs, citizens, Law enforcement and courts have to deal with, and fewer animals that have to be rescued and re-habilitated at a high cost to taxpayers.

The goal of Georgia's official public policy on homeless pets should be to PREVENT GEORGIA'S DOGS AND CATS FROM ENTERING ANIMAL SHELTERS IN THE FIRST PLACE," because:

- **We cannot adopt our way out of the problem** of having more dogs and cats than we have homes for.
- **We cannot donate our way out of the problem** of having more dogs and cats than we have suitable homes for.


To date, FIVE states—Maine, Maryland, New Mexico, Delaware and West Virginia—have added a spay/neuter surcharge to their pet food registration fees and another dozen states have proposed similar legislation, recognizing the dire need to reduce overpopulation. Our proposal will not place the burden on taxpayers like a surcharge would.

← ↻ 🔒 <https://www.wsav.com/co...> 🔍 📖 ⭐ 📄 👤 ⋮

Atlanta News First on MSN · 10d


**DeKalb County Animal Services makes urgent plea as they're overcapacity**

According to LifeLine's Facebook post, the shelter is out of dog housing and around 140 dogs are deteriorating very quickly.

 **WISN 12** · 7d · on MSN

**Gwinnett County animal shelter reaches critical capacity, calls for foster homes for animals in need**

Gwinnett County officials said the Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center is at critical capacity and they're looking for ...



FOX 5 Atlanta · 10d

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WTOC-TV · 1mon

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**COMMUNITY**

## Animal shelters reach an all-time high overpopulation crisis

by: [Megh Porterfield](#)

Posted: Apr 7, 2023 / 03:24 PM EDT

Updated: Apr 7, 2023 / 06:10 PM EDT

SAVANNAH, Ga. (WSAV) – Animal shelters in our area are fighting an overpopulation crisis that is now reaching an all-time high. Volunteers say nearly a third of dogs going into local shelters aren't making it out alive and it's only getting worse.

“This is a legislature issue. We are seeing huge numbers of dogs and the adoption rate was only 70%, and that's a concern for every volunteer and board member.

📷 · 13d · on MSN

### DeKalb County Animal Shelter asking for help finding 140 dogs homes

DeKalb County Animal Services are trying to find homes for more than 140 dogs as the shelter has hit capacity with over 600 ...





# your help



**Humane Society of Forsyth County, GA**

3d · 🌐

We desperately need unopened bags of dry small-breed dog food, wet dog food, and dry cat food to supplement our pet food pantry. Members of our community are struggling to feed their animals. We also support residents needing pet assistance through The Place and Meals by Grace. Please help us help them keep their beloved pets in loving homes. Animal Control, Rescue Organizations, and Humane Societies nationwide are struggling with an overwhelming number of intake requests. By providing services through our pet food pantry, snip-it programs, and low-cost vetting, we hope to make a difference, but we cannot do it alone. We accept all brands of food. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. Please consider donating today. Donations can be dropped off at our adoption center at 4440 Keith Bridge Road - Tuesday thru Thursday between 10am-4pm and Friday, Saturday, and Sunday between 1pm-4pm.

## DPH reports increase in animal bites across SWGA

by FOX 31 Staff | Wed, May 11th 2022, 10:46 AM EDT



Photo: WFXL STAFF



The Southwest Georgia Public Health District has seen a recent increase in the number of residents and pets being bitten by wild or stray animals.



Before handling an animal, think twice, and avoid getting bit. Animal bites are painful and may expose a person to the rabies virus and other infections.



Rabies is a viral disease of mammals, usually occurring among wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, bats, and foxes. When an infected animal bites another animal or person, the rabies virus is transmitted in the infected animal's saliva. The rabies virus travels from the site of the bite up through the nerves until it reaches the brain, causing encephalopathy and ultimately death.

**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** believe approximately 4.5 million dog bites occur annually. It is estimated that 1,000 people are bitten by dogs each day.

**“...Children between the ages of five and nine are at the greatest risk of receiving serious injuries related to dog bites. Approximately 81 percent of all dog attacks involve children, 86 percent of all dog attacks cause bodily harm or maiming, and 76 percent of dog attacks result in fatalities...”**



 Ledger-Enquirer

## A Ledger-Enquirer exclusive: Nearly 1,200 dog bites recorded in Columbus over past 3 years

Columbus, GA has seen nearly 1200 dog bites over the past 3 years, according to data from Columbus Consolidated Government & Animal control.

1 month ago



Attorney Vic Hawk says he sees dog attack cases more than you think.

"We probably get calls every month to a month and a half about a dog case that has resulted in a serious injury," he said. "These can be very serious, very tragic consequences as a result of owning a dog."

MARTINEZ, Ga. (WRDW/WAGT) - We're learning more about a dog attack that killed a 7-month-old girl in Martinez and left a family and the community in mourning and disbelief.

The attack by a dog in the household [happened Tuesday afternoon at 3701 Columbia Drive](#), where the girl — identified by deputies as Serenity Garnett, of Grovetown — was being watched by her great-grandmother.

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office on Wednesday afternoon released an incident report that revealed new details about the case.

 FOX 5 Atlanta

## Fulton County woman sentenced to jail for dogs' violent mauling of young boys

FULTON COUNTY, Ga. - A Fulton County woman will spend years in prison and under house arrest for the violent mauling of two young boys by...



WSB-TV · 8d

## 18 cats euthanized after stray tests positive for rabies in north Georgia county

HABERSHAM COUNTY, Ga. — Habersham County officials euthanized more than a dozen cats after one of the animals tested positive for rabies. On June 18, Habersham County...

LOCAL

## Pet hospitals say they're seeing a big increase in parvovirus cases this year



WISN-TV 2 · 7d · on MSN

### Gwinnett County animal shelter reaches critical capacity, calls for foster homes for animals in need

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FOX 5 Atlanta · 10d

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WTOC-TV · 1mon

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### Feline parvo outbreak forces Georgia animal shelter to stop taking in owner-surrendered cats

The Athens-Clarke County Animal Services Department says it has confirmed cases of feline panleukopenia, which is also known ...

WTOC-TV · 11d

### Overcrowded animal shelters may force dogs to be euthanized in Chatham Co.

CHATHAM COUNTY, Ga. (WTOC) - Chatham County Animal Services is overflowing with dogs who need a home. A local rescue facing capacity issues is concerned their lack of space could mean more dogs being ...



FOX 5 Atlanta · 5d

## Hundreds of dogs in need of foster and forever homes in DeKalb County

CHAMBLEE, Ga. - The DeKalb County animal shelter is in desperate need of finding dogs forever homes. In a Facebook post to the LifeLine Animal Project page on Friday, the organization said it had ...

 Chattanooga Times Free Press · 2d

## Man caught on video throwing kittens from truck in Dalton, Georgia

Dalton police are looking for a man who was caught on video tossing three kittens out of a truck in front of the Humane ...

THE "KITTEN" IS A 10-MONTH-OLD MALE KITTEN WHO WAS FOUND BY A VOLUNTEER AND BROUGHT TO THE OFFICE WORKING THE CASE. CALL 706-278-9085 WITH ANY INFORMATION.  
Oh how we love the three babies and they are loving all the volunteers! 🐾💕🐾. Thank you for all your help.



## RESCUE OR ADOPTION NEEDED BY 12PM JUNE 16TH



**Animal Control Headquarters**  
Address: 1396 Government Circle,  
Jonesboro, GA 30236  
Phone: 770-477-3509

**Adoption Center**  
Address: 3199 Anvil Block Rd,  
Ellenwood, GA 30294  
Phone: 770-347-0210



Rescue.coordinator@claytoncountygga.gov



WTOG  · 14h · on MSN

## Renegade Paws Rescue pleads for help after finding dead puppies inside cooler in Baxley, 1 survivor

According to a post on social media, "This weekend, four dead puppies were found in a cooler in Baxley, GA. Another puppy, ...



**ALIVE** · 7d

## Lawrenceville shelter waives adoption fees amid critical overcrowding

And if you feel your heart tugging and are looking to adopt, the shelter is waiving all adoption fees. The shelter adds that ...



 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution · 6d

## Metro Atlanta animal shelter seeking dog foster homes waives adoption fees

A Gwinnett County animal shelter is at a level of "critical capacity" for dogs, leading it to waive adoption fees and issue an urgent call for volunteers willing to foster.





11Alive · 13d

## Judge refuses to dismiss dozens of animal cruelty charges for accused dog breeder

GWINNETT COUNTY, Ga. — Monica Wong walked into the Gwinnett County Court Tuesday expecting to resolve 60 charges related to cruelty to animals with a nolo plea to just one. Nolo is used when a ...

New Castle News · 13d · OPINION

## Editorial by The Valdosta (Georgia) Daily Times | Adopting pets makes most sense

There is no doubt we have way too many feral and stray cats in our community.



Hosted on MSN · 1mon

## 'Emergency situation:' DeKalb County crews find 31 dogs, 1 dead in suspected animal cruelty case

30 dogs and the remains of one other were seized from a "cruelty ... fighting case" off Creekford Lane in Lithonia, according to DeKalb County officials. Currently, DeKalb County Animal Services ...

Atlanta Journal-Constitution · 13d

## Man indicted in dog's beating death will remain in DeKalb jail

Jackson has been in and out of jail this year after a DeKalb prosecutor's mistake led to him being granted bond in the animal cruelty case in March ... He is a lifelong Atlantan and a graduate of ...

Atlanta Journal-Constitution · 1mon

## Man facing child, animal cruelty charges after SWAT standoff at Clayton hotel

Thomas is facing multiple counts, including reckless conduct, obstruction, first-degree cruelty to children and cruelty to animals, police said.

## Twelfth Defendant Convicted in Dog-Fighting, Drug Distribution Ring

A Georgia resident pleaded guilty to federal charges resulting from a lengthy investigation into a significant multi-state **dog** fighting and cocaine trafficking network.

March 10, 2022

WSB-TV · 20d

## Georgia man charged with dogfighting after drug bust finds 20 dogs in home, deputies say

The search warrant was executed and deputies found and seized more than 20 dogs from the home ... Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact the sheriff's office.

## Overcrowding in Ga. animal shelter due to lack of court cases being solved, group says

State authorities tell Channel 2 Action News they have lifted the order that temporarily banned the DeKalb Animal Shelter from accepting new animals because it was...

WMAZ · 1mon

## Douglas County confirms raccoon involved in fight with dogs positive for rabies

DOUGLAS COUNTY, Ga. — Douglas County confirmed a positive rabies case following a fight involving a raccoon and two dogs. county's animal control team was called Wednesday after two "owned ...

yahoo/news · 1d

## Georgia man arrested for keeping dozens of kittens in 'inhumane conditions,' deputies say

A Floyd County man was arrested for possession of methamphetamine and 24 counts of cruelty to animals charges.



Augusta has a stray cat problem, and dealing with it has workers putting the animals down through euthanasia.

By [Craig Allison](#)

Published: Apr. 12, 2023 at 6:22 PM EDT



AUGUSTA, Ga. (WRDW/WAGT) - Augusta has a stray cat problem, and dealing with it has workers putting the animals down through euthanasia.

Shelter data from the Georgia Department of Agriculture shows the Augusta Animal Shelter's cat euthanasians jumped from more than 1,000 in 2021 to more than 1,300 in 2022.



## Heartbreaking: Shut down and scared to death this young dog needs help now before his life ends

Spread the loveAt the Fayette County Animal Shelter in Peachtree City, Georgia, a two-year-old, 80-pound dog has completely ...



**\$275 raised for SOS Rescue GA**  
7 people donated.

Donate



**SOS Rescue GA** is 🐾 asking for donations — at **SOS Rescue GA**.

June 7 at 1:09 AM · Macon, GA · 🌐

Warning: very disturbing photos.

Macon - we have GOT to do better than this.

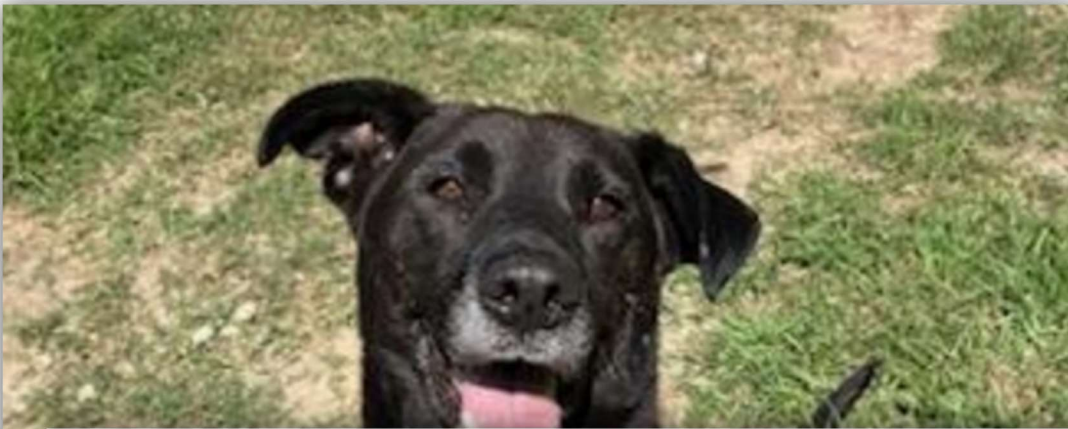
Someone contacted us about this dog earlier today and then..... she was somehow left at our gates.

This older girl has had a very hard life. She has had multiple litters, is SEVERELY emaciated, complete muscle atrophy, congestive heart failure due to severe heartworms, parasites, explosive diarrhea and severe flea infestation with open sores on her skin.

She almost can't walk due to being so thin and malnourished. How anyone can allow a dog to get this way just sickens us.

Please, help us help her and others like her. We are calling her Sapphire since her eyes are as blue as the gem stone and we think she is a gem. Sweet as can be but so so pitiful.

Welcome to [SOS Rescue GA](#) Sapphire. You are flea free, bathed and have a full belly tonight, on a soft bed in the cool A/C. May be the first peaceful sleep ever in your sad, hard life.



13WMAZ · 6d · on MSN

## Hawkinsville Animal Shelter asks for help as they experience overflow

Animal Control says they only have 11 kennels for animals and they're always filled. She says there are seven to eight dogs on the waiting list waiting for a space ...



Hawkinsville / Pulaski Animal Control

4d · 🌐

Our hearts are broken. 😭😭😭

Today when we came in Bill had vomited all over his kennel and was having a hard time standing. He was rushed to Westmoreland and Slappey but by then it was too late. Bill was an older fella with heartworms and even with the slow kill heartworm treatment his body gave out. Bill loved all humans and loved loved loved his stuffed toys. Bill had a great smile and was always happy. I'm the owner.

Humans definitely need a pet. We buried your dog.

The investigation into abuse claims at the McDuffie County Animal Shelter is now in the hands of the district attorney.

By [Nick Viland](#)

Published: Apr. 14, 2023 at 5:16 PM EDT



THOMSON, Ga. (WRDW/WAGT) - The investigation into abuse claims at the McDuffie County Animal Shelter is now in the hands of the district attorney.

It's been eight months since the shelter closed its doors to the public. The state did find discrepancies in the electronic record-keeping of animals coming in and out of the shelter. But they did not find evidence of abuse.

With this ongoing investigation, the new animal services director, Wendy Ivey, wants to move the shelter in a different direction.

We sat down with her to learn how they are looking to get past these challenges.



Today is their last day in Lowndes shelter and no one wants them. ❤️ I tried to get the word out around Fargo but not everyone down there gets online or has wifi or would know to go look for their dog an hour away. The shelter is a high intake with hardly no adoptions and low rescue pull. If they decide these dogs have to go their time can be up at anytime and euthanized. Ppl are thinking they are safe. THEY ARE NOT SAFE!

## Georgia Men Sentenced to Prison for Dog-Fighting and Drug Distribution

Two Georgia residents convicted on **dog**-fighting and drug distribution charges resulting from an investigation into a significant multi-state **dog**-fighting and cocaine trafficking ring were sentenced to prison today.

February 1, 2022



Albany (GA) WALB

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## Albany-area animal shelter talks overcrowding

Story by Lorenza Medley • Wednesday

**A**LBANY, Ga. (WALB) - The Albany Humane Society is one of many Southwest Georgia animal shelters that is dealing with overcrowding right now.

One way the shelter is encouraging residents to adopt is through their "doggy date" service. The service allows people interested in a particular dog to spend any amount of time with the dog. This ranges from one day to one hour.

Payton Jarrell, the adoption director at the Albany Humane Society, says the service is popular with residents and has had some success.

Hosted on MSN · 1y

## Georgia man faces 30-plus animal cruelty charges for allegedly committing same crime twice

A Georgia man was arrested and charged with animal cruelty after officials discovered ... Shelton said more help is needed to prevent these types of case. "These people will go on to do it ...



Echols Animal Rescue

2d · 🌐

Author: Dawn White

Published: 9:00 AM EDT June 24, 2023

Updated: 7:22 AM EDT June 24, 2023



JONESBORO, Ga. — Many animal shelters across metro Atlanta are over capacity and having to make tough decisions on which animals to euthanize. Some shelters said a big part of that increase is due to animal hoarding.

More than 250,000 animals are victims of hoarding each year in the United States; almost 40% of object hoarders also hoard animals, and 80% of hoarders have dying or dead animals in their homes, according to the [Anxiety and Depression Association of America](#).



WTVM 9 · 10h · on MSN

### **Proposed Georgia bill targets backyard breeders and illegal pet sales**

Georgia House Bill 331 would prohibit the sale of dogs, cats and other animals in certain public locations such as roadsides, ...



FOX 5 Atlanta on MSN · 26d

### **New charges for man cited for animal cruelty in Coweta County**

SEE ALSO: Shocking Coweta County animal hoarding case: Over 150 dogs rescued ...  
Local perspective All the dogs seized were ...



Thomasville Times-Enterprise · 2mon

### **About 70 dogs rescued from hoarding situation**

"We definitely are the largest nonprofit shelter in the state of Georgia," said Amanda Harris ... to respond to help officials deal with animal hoarding. "This isn't something that ...

Hosted on MSN · 1mon

### **PETITION: Hundreds of Dogs Suffered in Squalor While Their Owners Slept in the Car—A Disturbing Case of Hoarding**

COWETA COUNTY, GA. – Authorities in Coweta County have seized more than 150 dogs from a home where conditions were described as unlivable, with animals found inside vehicles, outdoor pens, and ...



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## Animal hoarding handicapping animal shelters forcing more pets to be euthanized

More than 250,000 animals are victims of hoarding each year in the United States, and 80% of hoarders have dying or dead animals in their homes.







## Wild Dogs Attack!

Jackson County hunter fought for his life against three large dogs.

Mike Bolton | February 9, 2023



*Scott had 298 puncture wounds and lacerations and was sewn up in seven places after three dogs attacked him in Jackson County.*

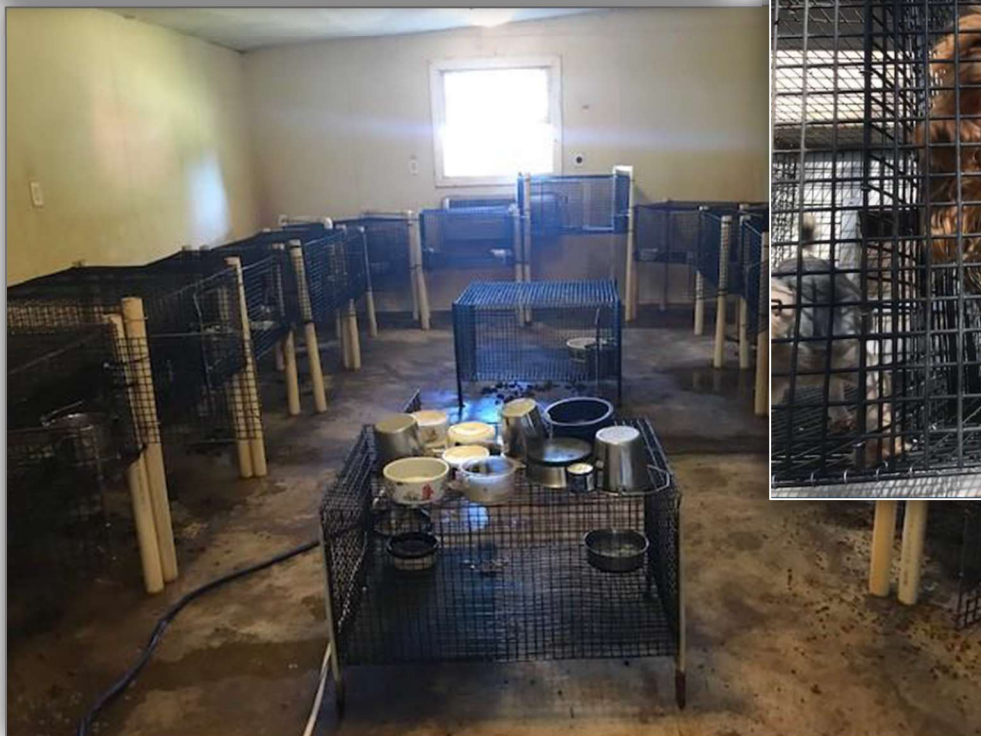
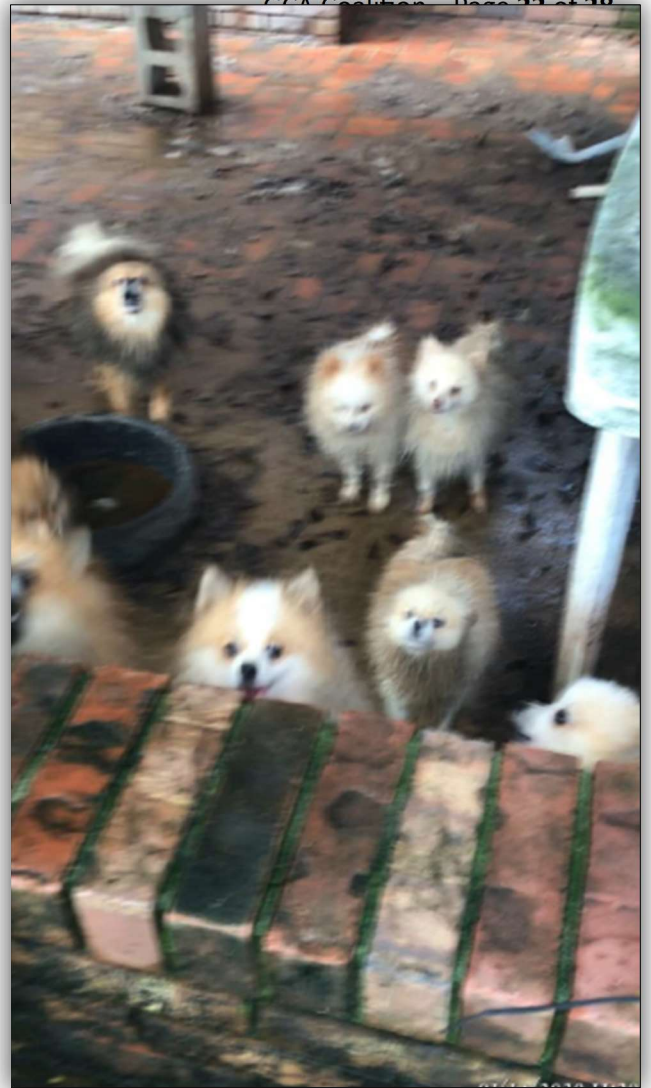
**Editor's Note:** The below story about wild dogs attacking a man took place on Sunday, Jan. 15. The event was extremely traumatic for the victim's family, and he asks that only his first name be used. However, he wanted to share his story with **GON** readers so that no one has to experience what happened to him.

Every deer hunter faces some degree of danger, but caution and common sense place the odds overwhelmingly in favor of the hunter.

Being mistaken for a deer by another hunter is one such fear, but the wearing of hunter's orange virtually eliminates that chance. Falling from a tree stand is another possibility, but wearing a safety harness can turn a tree stand fall into an embarrassing story instead of a broken leg or even a fatality.

Being in any danger was the furthest thing from Scott's mind Sunday, Jan. 15 when he got up early and decided to spend a little time in the Jackson County woods. That routine morning turned into a frightening life and death struggle.



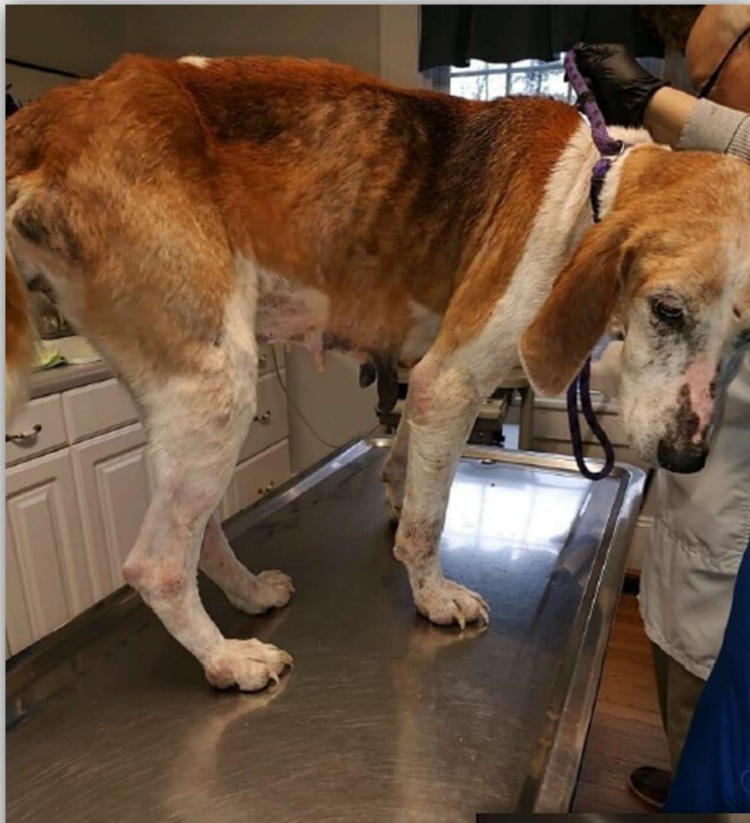




Although unrecognizable due to the level of starvation she is at in these pictures, this dog is a Belgian Malinois. For those of you not familiar, the Belgian Malinois is the working dog of choice by our military as well as Law Enforcement, such as Sheriffs and Police Departments.







**This little puppy has an excruciating skin disease, called Mange, that is completely treatable and only gets this bad after months of no care and takes even longer to recover from. He can't even open his eyes. Some poor adopter will have to pay for months of medical care and medicine.**

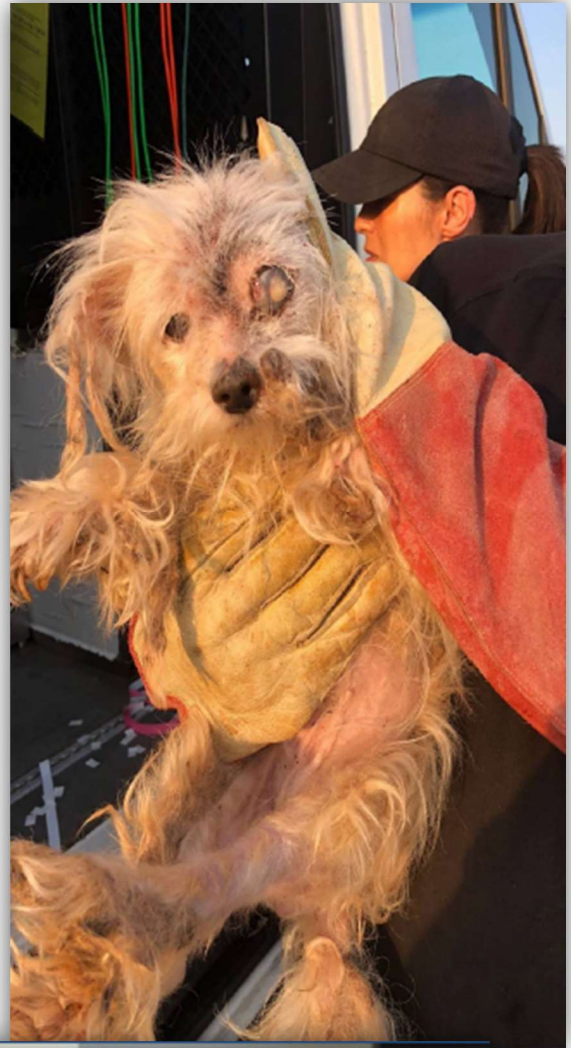




**If the supply of dogs and cats exceeds the demand for them as pets, their value deteriorates down to zero. It's our contention that re-balancing supply and demand in Georgia will help reduce the amount of neglect, starvation, abuse, and other criminal behavior related to animals that we see every day and our ACOs, citizens, Law enforcement and courts have to deal with, and fewer animals that have to be rescued and rehabilitated at high cost to taxpayers.**

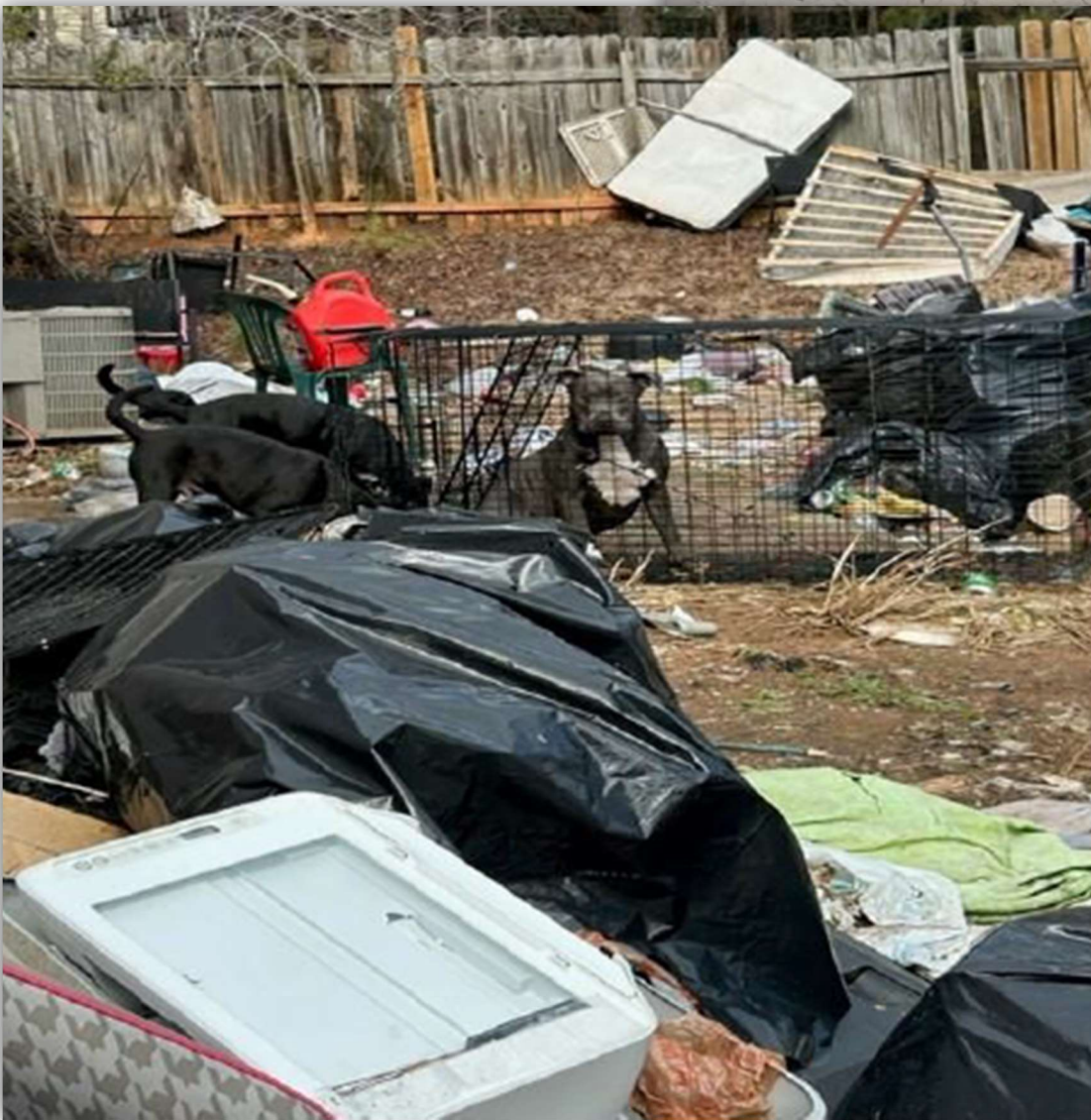








An embedded collar, seen too often across Georgia. This is what a dog's neck looks like when a collar has been on him or her for months or years, while that dog aged from puppy to an adult.



*Thank you for your attention!*

*For further information, please contact:*

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