

# Tails



PROVIDING SECOND CHANCES TO ANIMALS SINCE 1870



## Four Major Rescues

Hundreds Rescued from Starvation, Filth, and Neglect in Four Missouri Counties

STORY ON PAGE 4



# Directory

## Websites

www.hsmo.org  
www.longmeadowrescueranch.org  
www.amcma.org  
www.STLLostPets.org

**Main Number** 314-647-8800

**Report Animal Abuse and Neglect**  
314-647-4400 or 800-383-9835

**Adoption Centers:** Adoptions, Pet Lost and Found, Cremation Services  
St. Louis City Center 314-951-1562  
Westport Area Center 314-951-1588  
Kuehner Chesterfield Center 636-530-0805

## Adoption Centers Hours

Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sun. noon-4 p.m.

## Animal Medical Center of Mid-America

All locations 314-951-1534  
Patients seen by appointment  
St. Louis City Center, Westport Area Center,  
Kuehner Chesterfield Center hours  
Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sat. 8:00 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Sun. CLOSED

**Donations** 314-951-1542

Memberships, auto donations, planned giving

**Volunteer Program** 314-951-1577

**Longmeadow Rescue Ranch** 636-583-8759

Open House: Fridays noon-3 p.m.  
Saturdays 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Other adoption hours by appointment

## Location Addresses

Headquarters/St. Louis City Center –  
1201 Macklind Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110  
Westport Area Center – 2400 Drilling  
Service Dr., Maryland Heights, MO 63043  
Kuehner Chesterfield Center – 17357 Edison Ave.,  
Chesterfield, MO 63005  
Longmeadow Rescue Ranch – 480 Josephs  
Rd., Union, MO 63084  
All locations closed major holidays.

## Tails Staff

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employees, volunteers and supporters of  
the Humane Society of Missouri

**Tails** is published quarterly by the  
Humane Society of Missouri.

**Mission:** Since 1870, the Humane Society of Missouri has been dedicated to second chances. We provide a safe and caring haven to all animals in need—large and small—that have been abused, neglected or abandoned. Our mission is to end the cycle of abuse and pet overpopulation through our rescue and investigation efforts, spay/neuter programs and educational classes. We are committed to creating lasting relationships between people and animals through our adoption programs and our shelter pet training program. We further support that bond by making available world-class veterinary care.

The Humane Society of Missouri is an independent, non-profit organization not affiliated with any national animal welfare organizations. We do not receive tax support or United Way funding. We rely on the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations and fees for services.



HSMO Animal Cruelty Bike Patrol members Tim Poorman (r.) and Krista Gleiforst (l.) patrolling in Forest Park.

## Pedal Patrol Educates People, Saves Animals

### HSMO Launches First Animal Safety Bike Patrol in U.S.

It's another first for the Humane Society of Missouri, and another win for animals.

The HSMO Animal Cruelty Task Force is on the front lines at events and parks looking out for animal care and safety. The first bicycles hit the turf at Bark in the Park in May.

The ACT Bike Patrol focuses on high traffic areas, pedaling through neighborhoods, parks and large events. Summer patrols were especially on the alert for dogs left unattended in hot cars and educating pet owners about this dangerous, potentially fatal, neglect.

The ACT Bike Patrol consists of two full-time, professional animal cruelty investigators trained in a week-long certification course taught by the International Police Mountain Bike Association through the St. Louis County Police Academy. Their mountain bikes are fitted with saddle bags and a trailer to carry equipment as well as animals in distress.

“We launched the program to give animal welfare a street-level presence throughout St. Louis,” shared Animal Cruelty Task Force Director Mike Perkins. “It mirrors the police presence at events with officers on bicycles. Bike Patrol members promote proper pet care and enlist community support to identify and report cases of animal abuse.”

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## Goal in Sight for Best Buddy Pet Center

You can be part of this historic advance in animal welfare!

A new day is coming for pets in St. Louis! Thanks to gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations, \$15.3 million

of the \$16 million capital campaign goal for the Humane Society of Missouri's Best Buddy Pet Center and Animal Medical Center of Mid-America has been raised. And, construction has begun!

More than 70,000 daily passersby will be wowed by a stunning, unique facility dedicated to helping pets and people throughout St. Louis.

**The Best Buddy Pet Adoption Center** will provide second chances for thousands of abused, neglected and abandoned animals the Humane Society receives every year.



### The full-service companion animal center will offer:

- An airy, inviting, colorful environment for adoptable pets and prospective adopters
- Multiple community areas for dogs, puppies, cats and kittens
- Interactive, informational area fun for children and adults



### The Animal Medical Center of Mid-America will feature:

- A spacious, bright, comfortable lobby and registration area
- A Pet Information Center
- The latest imaging, laser treatment and physical therapy equipment
- Two surgical suites
- Multiple exam rooms
- A triage and treatment center for rescued and injured animals
- A veterinary pharmacy
- Office space for the doctors



### Help Build a Better Future for St. Louis Pets

Make a one-time gift or a three-to-five-year pledge to the Campaign. Pledges can be fulfilled monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. If your gift is \$500 or more, you may choose a naming opportunity.

Visit [www.hsmo.org/bestbuddycenter](http://www.hsmo.org/bestbuddycenter) or call Judy Miniace, campaign director, 314-951-1515 to learn more about the new Center and how you can be part of a new day for pets in St. Louis!

### The Education and Community Center will offer:

- Humane IQ and character education classes for underserved children
- Tours for Girl and Boy Scout troops, school, church and private groups
- Summer camps
- Family programs and activities

# ANIMAL CRUELTY TASK FORCE

## Throughout Missouri, HSMO Aids Hundreds of Suffering Animals

### 158 Animals Rescued

**St. Francois County – March 6** A dog dubbed “Mama” was among 82 pure breed dogs surrendered by a St. Francois County licensed breeder. Mama was still nursing puppies when the HSMO Animal Cruelty Task Force brought her in. She was among a menagerie of 158 animals: rabbits, parakeets, guinea pigs, Love Birds, Cockatiels, Green Cheek Conures, Chinchillas, and two to three dozen finches. The breeder decided to go out of business and contacted the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA). In turn, MDA asked HSMO for help in caring for them and finding them loving homes.

“Mama,” a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel, had been bred to a poodle and gave birth to “Cavapoo” puppies. One of them went home with the Braden family. Said mother Amy Braden, “We had just had to say goodbye to our dog a few weeks before. My daughters were pushing for a new pet.” When the Bradens learned puppies were available for adoption, they rushed out that morning and came home with Bailey. Now six months old, Bailey is a cherished member of the family. “She’s on top of the totem pole at this house.”

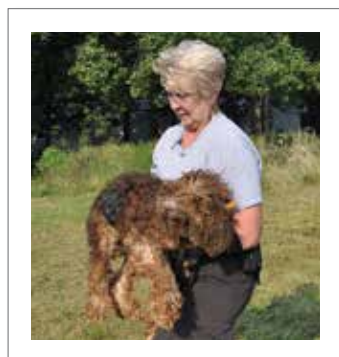


*(left) A Cavalier King Charles Spaniel nicknamed “Mama” is examined.*

*(below) One of her puppies was adopted by the Braden family.*



### 78 Animals Rescued



*(above) A filthy and matted Winston is rescued by ACT Investigator Carmen Skelly.*

*(right) Handsome Winston after treatment.*



**Warren County – August 31** The fur of pitiful Winston, a three-year-old standard poodle mix, was so matted it severely restricted his ability to walk or properly eliminate. HSMO veterinarians and veterinary technicians painstakingly shaved his thick, foul smelling coat encountering thousands of fleas and a disgusting nest of embedded maggots feeding off his flesh. He also had heart worms, ear and skin infections and eye problems. Despite his maladies, staff found Winston to be a very sweet dog though his full recovery could take many weeks.

Winston was one of 16 dogs, eight cats, 23 rabbits, 24 chickens, three ducks, two goats, one potbellied pig and one Cockatoo rescued by HSMO’s Animal Cruelty Task Force from a trash strewn, feces- and urine-filled property in Warren County.

Dogs, cats, rabbits and the bird were cared for at HSMO Headquarters in St. Louis. The goats, chickens, ducks and pig were taken to Longmeadow Rescue Ranch where they received veterinary treatments and appropriate, nutritious food.

Both the Humane Society of Missouri and the Warren County Sheriff’s Office have asked that animal abuse charges be filed against the animals’ owners.

*According to Mike Perkins, director of HSMO’s Animal Cruelty Task Force, “We will make extensive reports of our findings to the appropriate authorities in each county and recommend prosecution to the fullest extent of the law. Our goal is to prevent the suffering of any more animals at the hands of these people.”*

To report animal abuse or neglect call 314-647-4400.

## 32 Dogs Rescued

**Moniteau County – September 24** “These dogs are in the worst condition I believe I’ve ever seen,” observed Carmen Skelly, a 15-year veteran investigator with HSMO’s Animal Cruelty Task Force. Intensely burning, crusty, itchy, mostly-hairless skin caused by untreated mange covered every inch of each of the 32 mixed-breed dogs discovered on the Moniteau County property. All were also suffering from eye, ear and respiratory infections, grossly overgrown toe nails and myriad other maladies. The dogs had been living in a waste-filled, trash-strewn double-wide trailer.

HSMO was called to the property at the request of the Moniteau County Sheriff’s Office. Following discussion with HSMO investigators and the sheriff’s deputy, the dogs’ owner agreed to surrender the animals to HSMO.

After thorough examination by HSMO veterinarians, the dogs received immediate relief from their itching. HSMO shelter staff will continue treatments and provide loving care for the many weeks they will need to fully recover and find the forever homes they truly deserve.



*“Ending the suffering of animals like these and working to eradicate animal abuse and neglect is why it is so important for our Animal Cruelty Task Force to be at the ready 24/7,” said Kathy Warnick, president of the Humane Society of Missouri. “We are exceptionally grateful to our generous donors who make it possible for us to provide second chances for neglected animals statewide.”*

## 185 Cats and Kittens Rescued



### St. Louis County – September 28

From the outside, the single-family ranch home looked like any other home in the well-kept suburban neighborhood. However, a strong ammonia odor coming from the home alerted neighbors and eventually St. Louis County officials that all was not well. An initial inspection from St. Louis County Animal Care and Control led them to believe there were at least 100 cats living in the home. That’s when

HSMO’s Animal Cruelty Task Force was called to conduct an immediate rescue.

Within an hour, HSMO’s rescue team was on the scene with dozens of crates, animal transport vehicles, respirators and heavy gloves to bring to safety 185 cats of all ages and breeds. “The smell was overwhelming,” said ACT Investigator Tim Poorman. “The cats were in every nook and cranny of the house. We lifted a sofa and dozens of cats ran out. They were in the walls, behind cabinets, in window sills and on top of and under every piece of furniture.”

While the ACT team was on the scene, shelter staff and volunteers went to work assembling cages, water bowls, food, blankets, towels and cleaning supplies to give each cat a comfortable living space. Veterinarians and veterinary technicians readied the initial vaccinations and treatments necessary for felines suffering from fleas and ear, eye and respiratory infections.

As word got out, generous donors and volunteers brought bedding and linens, and offered to do laundry, help with daily cleaning and foster some of the most vulnerable cats and kittens.

“With our great staff and the support of many volunteers and donors, we will do the best for every one of these poor cats,” said Debbie Hill, VP of Operations. “We want as many of them as possible to have wonderful homes where they can receive the individual love and attention they need.”



*To support the Humane Society of Missouri’s Animal Cruelty Task Force, visit [hsmo.org](http://hsmo.org) or mail your tax-deductible contributions to: HSMO, 1201 Macklind Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110.*

Scottrade associates enjoyed a special Valentine's Day Puppygram from the Humane Society of Missouri, thanks to our new puppy pals Chase and Pippa.



## Not All Investments Are Monetary

Scottrade values giving back to our communities, including those of our furry, four-legged friends. That is why we proudly support the Humane Society of Missouri's mission to provide second chances for all animals in need – large and small.

# Spay It Forward to Reduce Pet Overpopulation

HUMANE SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

JOIN THE TEAM | **SPAY IT FORWARD**

DONATE AT [HSMO.ORG](http://HSMO.ORG)



Teaming up with Athletes for Animals and three high-profile pet lovers, the Humane Society of Missouri launched the Spay It Forward Campaign.

St. Louis Blues captain **David Backes**, former Rams offensive tackle **Jake Long** and St. Louis Cardinals pitcher **Trevor Rosenthal** challenge YOU to help fund 2,500 spay/neuter surgeries of animals. This unprecedented push to spay or neuter strays will prevent thousands of unwanted animals roaming St. Louis streets. St. Louis Blues Captain David Backes and his wife Kelly, founders of Athletes for Animals, are spearheading the campaign.

To donate visit [www.hsmo.org/spayitforward](http://www.hsmo.org/spayitforward).

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# Happy Endings for Gracie & Sawyer



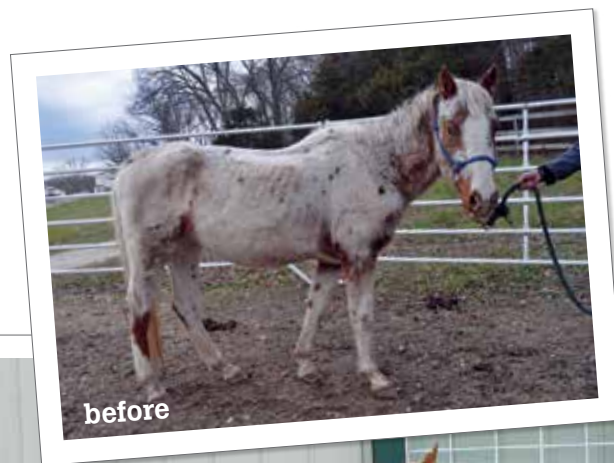
*Gracie and Shelby*

## Shy Chihuahua Finds Quiet, Loving Home

It's a sad fact that older animals experience age discrimination, too often lingering at shelters while younger pets go home. In addition to her age, the six-year-old Chihuahua, Gracie, was also shy and hesitant to warm up to humans. But she liked to cuddle with Tammi Britton, manager at the Adoption Center in Chesterfield Valley, and enjoyed her walks outdoors. Staff and volunteers hoped she would find just the right lap in a quiet home ...and she did. Gracie decided she liked her adopter and she went home carried in the loving arms of Shelby Harris.

## Smitten Adopter Waits Through Horse's Long Recovery

When one of our dedicated Longmeadow Rescue Ranch volunteers met Sawyer after his rescue in December, she knew he was the one for her. But she had to wait six months until he was well enough to be her "one and only." He was severely underweight and needed expert care before going home. After nearly six months of rehabilitation and training, Sawyer made a full recovery. Now he's forever home with Roberta Joachimstaler, the woman who loved him at first sight.



*Sawyer and Roberta*



# Is a Potbellied Pig in your Future?

They're social and super smart, but do your homework first.

Young pigs are small and charming, as are all baby animals. Keep in mind that at maturity (3 to 4 years), they can weigh up to 200 pounds (no matter what you are told when you get one). Be prepared for their final size so you don't later break the pig's heart and yours when you can't handle your larger-than-expected pet.

## Things to think about before adopting a potbellied pig:

- Does your municipality allow pigs?
- Do you know a veterinarian who welcomes pot-bellied pigs in his/her practice?  
Your pet pig will need routine vaccinations, hoof trimming and deworming.
- Pigs are highly intelligent and require lots of social interaction, whether they live indoors or out. (Belly rubs count.)
- Feeding table scraps is a no-no. To keep your pet healthy, use only potbellied pig feed. Provide plenty of water, too. Healthy snacks should be provided, such as low calorie fruits and vegetables.
- Potbellied pigs are sensitive to the sun and need shelter to protect them from all weather elements, especially if your pet will be staying outdoors. Pigs with light colored skin often need sun screen applied daily during the summer months.
- Rooting is a natural behavior and all piggies need plenty of outside time in a secure area. They need free exercise in a fenced-in yard where they can root as desired.
- Pigs are easily trained to walk on a leash. You'll be surprised at how quickly they learn with snacks as a reward. They like to learn tricks and even to walk up and down stairs.

**"Dogs look up to you.  
Cats look down on you.  
Give me a pig. He just looks  
you in the eye and treats  
you like an equal."  
– Winston Churchill**



*After you've done your homework, come to Longmeadow Rescue Ranch and pick out your very own pig. Open for visits Fridays Noon - 3 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m - 3 p.m. or call 636-583-8759 to schedule an appointment. See piggy pix at [longmeadowrescueranch.org/pigs/](http://longmeadowrescueranch.org/pigs/).*

  
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# Tour de Tails

## Meet a Volunteer Who Biked the U.S.A.

Gail Velten rode 3,000 miles across the country to do serious fundraising for spay/neuter surgeries at the Humane Society of Missouri.

“Going coast-to-coast was on our bucket list,” said Gail of herself and best friend Marla Drewel-Lynch. This year they joined a cross-country group and were gone for 52 days, pedaling as many as 95 miles in one day. Starting in California on March 7, the trek crossed eight states, finishing in Florida on April 26.

Velten was inspired to raise money for the Spay It Forward Campaign (see page 7) and set a goal of \$10,000. “The day I reached the goal, I was riding and crying,” she said. Money kept coming in to honor Gail, and she actually topped her goal. An additional \$2,000 went to the HSMO Cinderella Fund for medical treatment of injured and sick shelter animals.

“Once the ride became a fundraiser, I was determined to finish,” she said. “I felt proud to do something at the age of 63 to make a difference.”

Velten credits her dog Jazzy, adopted from the Humane Society, for inspiring her to go the distance. She learned to appreciate shelter dogs during her volunteer work in the Humane Education department and decided to adopt.

“I’m certain I would not have undertaken this endeavor without the positive experience of volunteering and adopting. Day after day I would think of the cause,” she said. “I would tell myself when riding up those long hills, ‘This is nothing compared to what the animals have to go through to find a good home.’ Coming down the long hills, well, that was fun!”

Jazzy was ecstatic to see Gail again and was not letting her out of her sight as she unpacked. She seemed to ask, “Where on earth have you been?” She’s been on a once-in-a-lifetime journey, Jazzy.

*Help animals by volunteering at one of our four locations. For a list of jobs and to apply online, visit [hsmo.org/volunteer](http://hsmo.org/volunteer).*

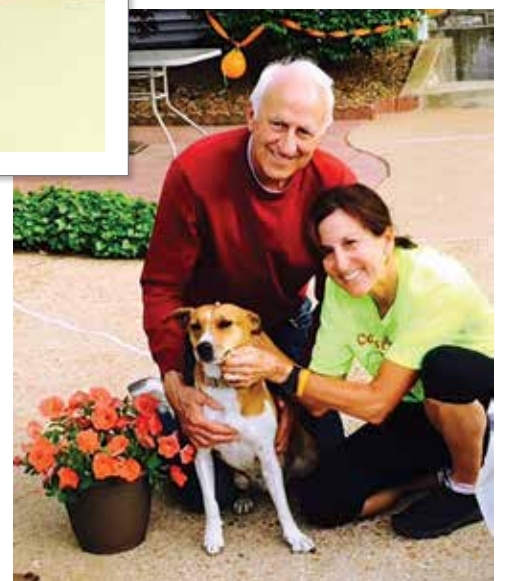


*(above) The incredible volunteer who crossed a continent and raised \$12,000*



*(left) Best friends Marla Drewel-Lynch and Gail Velten*

*(below) Gail and Jim Velten with Jazzy*





## Irresistible Animals Help Kids PAWS and Learn

### Create-A-Class Program Customized for Teachers, Group Leaders

Need to meet academic and knowledge goals, common core-aligned standards, character concepts and STEM initiatives? We can help; let's get creative!

The HSMO Humane Education department **Create-A-Class** programs put teachers and group leaders in the designer chair. You choose a basic education format appropriate for the age of your students from the resources we have available. Then YOU build the remainder of the class from a menu of animal-related topics your class would like to explore.

For instance, students in Grades 4-6 visiting our headquarters on Macklind would take part in an interactive program you design with us:

- What does the Humane Society of Missouri do to help abused, neglected animals?
- Pet overpopulation and the importance of spaying and neutering.

- Dog bite prevention.
- How Henry Bergh, founder of the humane movement, helped animals.

Next, you build the remainder of the program around your interests.

We have Create-A-Class units for students in Grades 1 through 12. This format is available focusing on domestic pets as well as the horses and farm animals at Longmeadow Rescue Ranch.

Check our menu of more than 60 lessons to help you meet your teaching goals while keeping animals in the learning curve! For more ideas, download our online monthly calendars containing ideas and environmental messages for every day of the year.

Join us as we help make animals an integral part of exciting education.

*For online resources, visit [hsmo.org](http://hsmo.org). For a Create-A-Class visit, call 314-951-1579 or e-mail [jhousley@hsmo.org](mailto:jhousley@hsmo.org).*

## HSMO Goes Global

When Kevin O'Malley was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Ireland, animal welfare organizations gained an ally in his wife, long-term HSMO volunteer Dena O'Malley. In June, the O'Malleys hosted a reception at the embassy for people who had traveled to Dublin from all points of Ireland to attend an animal-welfare conference. Dena and HSMO volunteer Laurie Livingston shared experiences gained from more than a decade of hands-on experience in dog walking, humane education and kennel enrichment.

*Laurie Livingston, HSMO volunteer; Simon Coveney, Minister of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine; the Honorable Kevin O'Malley; Dena O'Malley, HSMO volunteer.*



# Taking Your Pet to Our Vet Has Its Perks!

When's the last time you earned rewards just for taking Fido or Fluffy for a check-up?

At the Animal Medical Center of Mid-America, clients are enjoying the perks – **Paw Perks!**

Launched in April 2015, the **Paw Perks**

**Rewards Program** offers these great benefits to pet owners:

- ~ One free vet exam per year
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- ~ A complimentary nail trim for one pet in your household
- ~ Paw Perks membership is **FREE**. It's just one more way to thank our clients for bringing their pets to the Animal Medical Center of Mid-America.

**Not a member yet? Sign up at the end of your next visit!**



*The Animal Medical Center of Mid-America operates three nationally-accredited veterinary practices in the St. Louis area. Proceeds benefit the Humane Society of Missouri. For hours and appointments visit [amcm.org](http://amcm.org) or call 314-951-1534.*



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## Delight Animal-Lovers with Gifts that Give Twice

### Barn Buddies



Delight an animal lover and help a rescued horse or farm animal at the same time! Our Barn Buddy sponsorship program gives you the satisfaction of giving a unique gift, while helping to care for rescued horses and farm animals

at Longmeadow Rescue Ranch. For your sponsorship, we will deliver a Barn Buddy Membership package to anyone on your gift list in the U.S., and don't worry—we'll also take care of the feeding and clean-up! Choose your favorite Barn Buddy at:

[www.longmeadowrescue ranch.org/barnbuddies](http://www.longmeadowrescue ranch.org/barnbuddies)



Sponsor a Barn Buddy and receive a plush pet, too!



Donate to the Animal Cruelty Fund to help Winston and thousands of other abused animals.

### HSMO Holiday Cards

Inside: "May the blessings of the season bring happiness to your hearts and home!"

Also includes this message: *Proceeds benefit the abused and neglected animals cared for by the Humane Society of Missouri and Longmeadow Rescue Ranch.*

*The animals pictured on the card all received their second chances from HSMO and Longmeadow.*

10 per box \$12.95.

Available at all three HSMO locations in St. Louis.



### HSMO Gift Cards



A gift card is always the perfect size and color! Redeem Humane Society of Missouri Gift Cards for pet adoptions, veterinary services, children's education classes, gift shop items and more.

Gift cards can be purchased at all HSMO locations.



We're excited to  
sponsor the  
Humane Society of  
Missouri

## Stepping up

to help our our four-legged  
(and two-winged) friends.



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<sup>1</sup>Data on File at Merial

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**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:** For use in dogs only. The most common adverse reaction is vomiting. Other adverse reactions reported are dry/flaky skin, diarrhea, lethargy, and anorexia. The safe use of NexGuard in pregnant, breeding, or lactating dogs has not been evaluated. Use with caution in dogs with a history of seizures.

**CAUTION:** Federal FDCA law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

**Description:** NexGuard (afoxolaner) is available in four sizes of beef-flavored, soft chewables for oral administration to dogs and puppies according to their weight. Each chewable is formulated to provide a minimum afoxolaner dosage of 1.14 mg/lb (2.5 mg/kg). Afoxolaner has the chemical composition 1-Naphthalenecarboxamide, 4-(5-(3-chloro-5-(difluoromethyl)phenyl)-4-hydroxy-5-oxo-1H-imidazol-2-ylmethyl)-N-(2-oxo-2-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)acetamido)-

**Indications:** NexGuard kills adult fleas and is indicated for the treatment and prevention of flea infestations (*Ctenocephalides felis*) and the treatment and control of hook-legged tick (*Amblyomma sculptorum*), American dog tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*), Lone Star tick (*Haemaphysalis americana*), and Brown dog tick (*Diplospalpus sanguinalis*) infestations in dogs and puppies 8 weeks of age and older, weighing at least 10 pounds, for one month.

**Dosage and Administration:** NexGuard is given orally once a month, at the minimum dosage of 1.14 mg/lb (2.5 mg/kg).

**Dosing Schedule:**

Body Weight	Chewables Per Chewable (mg)	Chewables Administered
4.4 to 10.0 lbs.	11.3	One
10.1 to 24.0 lbs.	28.3	One
24.1 to 48.0 lbs.	60	One
48.1 to 110 lbs.	126	One

See 121.2 lbs. Administer the appropriate combination of chewables.

NexGuard can be administered with or without food. Care should be taken that the dog consumes the complete dose, and treated animals should be observed for a time sufficient to insure that part of the dose is not lost or withheld. If it is suspected that any of the dose has been lost or if vomiting occurs within two hours of administration, re-dose with another full dose. If a dose is missed, administer NexGuard and resume a monthly dosing schedule.

**Flag Treatment and Prevention:** Treatment with NexGuard may begin at any time of the year. In areas where fleas are common year-round, monthly treatment with NexGuard should continue the entire year without interruption. To minimize the likelihood of flea reinfestation, it is important to treat all animals within a household with an approved flea control product.

**Flag Treatment and Control:** Treatment with NexGuard may begin at any time of the year (see Effectiveness).

**Contraindications:** There are no known contraindications for the use of NexGuard.

**Warnings:** Not for use in humans. Keep this and all drugs out of the reach of children. In case of accidental ingestion, contact a physician immediately.

**Precautions:** The safe use of NexGuard in breeding, pregnant or lactating dogs has not been evaluated. Use with caution in dogs with a history of seizures (see Adverse Reactions).

**Adverse Reactions:** In a well-controlled laboratory study, which included a total of 323 households and 115 treated dogs (415 administered afoxolaner, 355 administered active control), no serious adverse reactions were observed with NexGuard. Over the 30-day study period, all observations of potential adverse reactions were recorded. The most frequent reactions reported at an incidence of > 1% within any of the three months of observations are presented in the following table. The most frequently reported adverse reaction was vomiting. The occurrence of vomiting was generally self-limiting and of short duration and tended to decrease with subsequent doses in both groups. Two treated dogs experienced anorexia during the study, and two of those dogs experienced anorexia with the first dose but not subsequent doses.

**Table 1: Dogs With Adverse Reactions.**

	Treatment Group			
	Afoxolaner		Best active control	
	N	% (95% CI)	N	% (95% CI)
Vomiting (with and without blood)	37	4.1	26	10.9
Drooling (no)	12	3.1	2	1.0
Diarrhea (with and without blood)	12	3.1	7	3.5
Lethargy	7	1.7	4	2.0
Anorexia	6	1.3	4	1.6

Number of dogs in the afoxolaner treatment group with the identified abnormality. Number of dogs in the control group with the identified abnormality. In the 30-day study, owing to a history of seizures experienced a seizure on the same day after receiving the first dose and on the same day after receiving the second dose of NexGuard. This dog experienced a third seizure one week after receiving the third dose. The dog remained unaltered and completed the study. Another dog with a history of seizures had a seizure 10 days after the first dose of NexGuard. The dog remained unaltered and completed the study. A third dog with a history of seizures received NexGuard and experienced no seizures throughout the study. To report suspected adverse reaction, for technical assistance or to obtain a copy of the MSDS, contact Merial at 1-800-627-4252 or [medvet@merial.com](mailto:medvet@merial.com). For additional information about adverse drug experience reporting for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-800-332-5535 or online at <http://www.fda.gov/oc/ohrt/animal.html>.

**Mode of Action:** Afoxolaner is a member of the isoxanoline family, shown to bind to a binding site to inhibit insect and acarine ligand-gated chloride channels. In particular, these sites are found in the neurotransmitter gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA), thereby blocking pre- and post-synaptic transfer of chloride ions across cell membranes. Post-synaptic afoxolaner-induced hyperexcitability results in uncontrolled activity of the central nervous system and death of insects and acarines. The selective toxicity of afoxolaner between insects and acarines and mammals may be inferred by the differential sensitivity of the insects and acarines' GABA receptors versus mammalian GABA receptors.

**Effectiveness:** In a well-controlled laboratory study, NexGuard began to kill fleas four hours after initial administration and demonstrated 100% effectiveness at eight hours. In a separate well-controlled laboratory study, NexGuard demonstrated 100% effectiveness against adult fleas 24 hours post-infestation for 30 days, and was a 100% effective at 12 hours post-infestation through Day 21, and on Day 30. On Day 26, NexGuard was 81.1% effective 12 hours post-infestation. Dogs in both the treated and control groups that were infested with fleas on Day 1 generated flea eggs at 12- and 24 hours post-infestation (0-11 eggs and 1-17 eggs in the NexGuard treated dogs, and 0-30 eggs and 0-18 eggs in the control dogs, at 12- and 24 hours, respectively). All subsequent evaluations post-infestation, flea from dogs in the treated group were essentially unable to produce any eggs (0-1 eggs) while flea from dogs in the control group continued to produce eggs (1-141 eggs).

In a 90-day field study conducted in households with varying flea infestations of varying intensity, the effectiveness of NexGuard against fleas on the Day 30, 60 and 90 visits compared with baseline was 96.0%, 98.7%, and 91.6%, respectively. Collectively, the data from these studies (both laboratory and field) demonstrate that NexGuard kills fleas before they can lay eggs, thus preventing subsequent flea infestations after the start of treatment of existing flea infestations. In well-controlled laboratory studies, NexGuard demonstrated 100% effectiveness against *Ctenocephalides felis*, 100% effectiveness against *Amblyomma sculptorum*, and 100% effectiveness against *Dermacentor variabilis*, 48 hours post-infestation for 30 days. At 72 hours post-infestation, NexGuard demonstrated 100% effectiveness against *Amblyomma sculptorum* for 30 days.

**Animal Safety:** In a margin of safety study, NexGuard was administered orally to 6 to 8-week-old Beagle puppies at 1, 3, and 5 times the maximum exposure dose (1.14 mg/kg) for three treatments every 28 days, followed by three treatments every 14 days, for a total of six treatments. Dogs in the control group were sham-dosed. There were no clinically-relevant effects related to treatment or physical examination (body weight, food consumption, clinical pathology, hematology, clinical chemistry, or coagulation tests), gross pathology, histopathology or organ weights. Vomiting occurred throughout the study, with a similar incidence in the treated and control groups, including one dog in the 5x group that vomited four hours after treatment.

In a well-controlled field study, NexGuard was used concurrently with other medications, such as vaccines, anthelmintics, antibiotics (including topical), steroids, NSAIDs, anesthetics, and antihistamines. No adverse reactions were observed from the concurrent use of NexGuard with other medications.

**Storage Information:** Store at or below 20°C (68°F) with excursions permitted up to 40°C (104°F).

**How Supplied:** NexGuard is available in four sizes of beef-flavored soft chewables: 11.3, 28.3, 60 or 126 mg afoxolaner. Each chewable size is available in color-coded packages of 1, 3 or 6 beef-flavored chewables.

NADA 141-481, Approved by FDA. Manufactured by Merial (the "Vet Lab"), a Division of Merial, Inc., Duluth, GA 30096-0442 USA.

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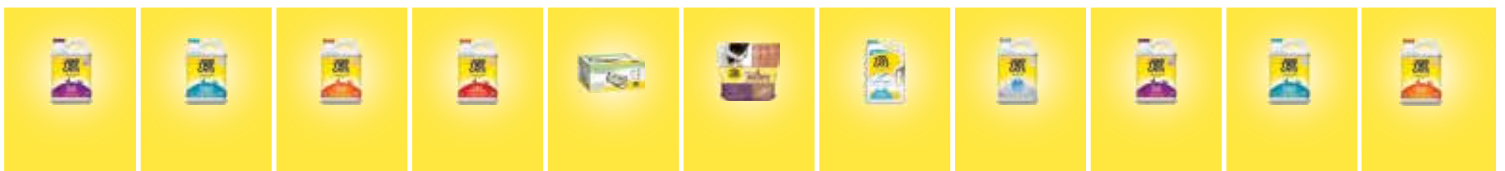
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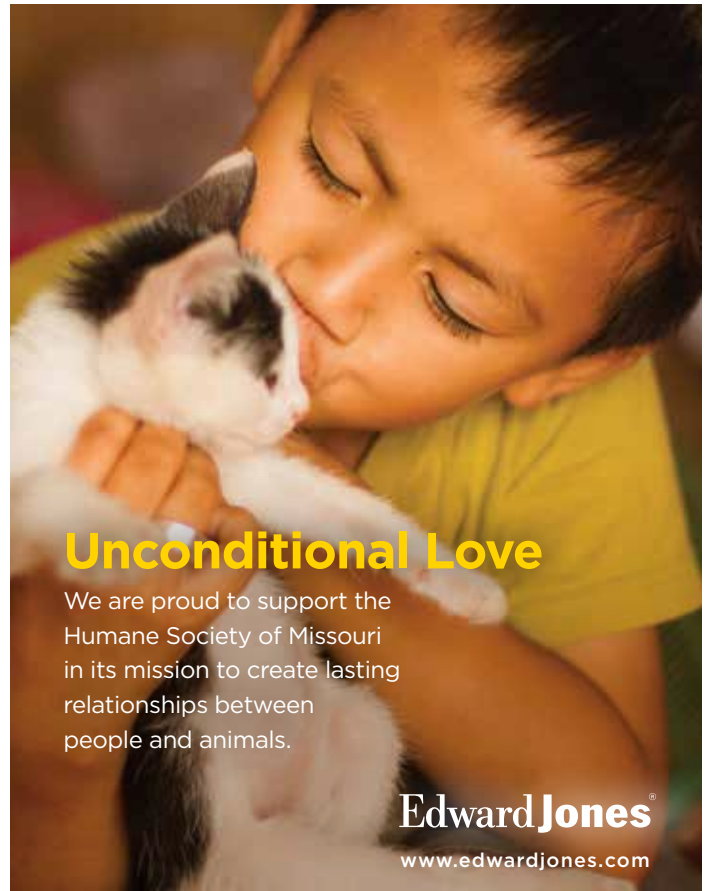
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