

FEATURE

thank you pets advantage!

Ingrid Harding

MN HRS is delighted to report that the Pets Advantage store, located at Valley Creek Plaza (next to Rainbow Foods) in Woodbury, agreed to stop selling rabbits this past spring and is now working together in partnership with MN HRS. Thank you, Pets Advantage, for making this responsible choice!

The MN HRS events calendar now includes monthly Pets Advantage info tables, and we plan to include Pets Advantage on our Adoption Day schedule sometime next year.

A 3-ring binder which features homeless rabbits available for adoption through Twin Cities area shelters and rescue groups sits by the Pets Advantage register. The book also includes information on rabbit care and behavior, sampler newsletters and membership info, and a checklist of suggested rabbit care supplies available at Pets Advantage. The store also has a supply of MN HRS adoption information kits, and as a special bonus, the store will make a donation to the MN HRS for every adoption that comes through Pets Advantage!

In the future, Pets Advantage is also interested in housing MN HRS rabbits available for adoption at the store. In order to take advantage of this great opportunity, MN HRS needs volunteers — if you're

interested in volunteering to help with this partnership, please contact MN HRS.

"I look forward to having folks come by to learn more about caring for rabbits and about adopting ones who need homes," says Meridith Cairns-Mellen, Pets Advantage Team Leader. "I'm excited to work with the MN HRS to help rabbits, and would



Pets Advantage associate Amanda visits with foster rabbit Ramona



A recent MN HRS Info table at Pets Advantage store, Valley Creek Plaza, Woodbury

love to talk with other rescue groups about setting up similar arrangements for other small animals and birds."

If you live or work near the store, or have friends or colleagues in the Woodbury area, please stop by Pets Advantage and thank them for making this great decision on behalf of rabbits. And be sure to pick up some supplies while you're there! Pets Advantage carries Oxbow hay and other good stuff!

inside the full edition

FEATURE
Find out which fresh veggies are best for bunny, and which plants are poisonous.

BUNNY CAMP
What should you do when your rabbit bites and lunges? Our rabbit experts give good advice.

CHARTER MANAGER
MN HRS' CM invited to speak at American Humane Association conference!

FEATURE
Is your rabbit really sleeping? The truth behind "trancing."

Q&A
LadyBug focuses on children and rabbits.

FEATURE
One MN HRS member's search for a furry friend.

ADOPTION
Rabbits are looking for homes in your area!

VOLUNTEER
Ways you can help support MN HRS by giving of your time, talents, money, or even goods!

SHOPPING
Check out new toys at the Bunny Lovers' Picnic, and the Reading Corner.

Come to the 5th-Annual Bunny Lovers' Picnic!

Saturday, August 7, Noon to 4 pm
Hidden Falls Regional Park pavillion, St. Paul

- Learn more about the MN House Rabbit Society
 - Ask questions of rabbit "experts"
 - Meet other "rabbit people"
 - Learn tips on rabbit behavior & care
 - Enter the FREE raffle to win great prizes
 - See what's new for sale in Bunnydale
 - For a small donation, play fun games and win cool prizes
 - All money raised helps the homeless bunnies!
- RSVP 651-768-9755 or MNHouseRabbit@aol.com

**"MN HRS' mission focuses on Education and Adoption:
Reducing the number of unwanted rabbits and improving the lives of companion rabbits by educating the public and assisting humane societies;
Helping rabbits in area shelters, or those that shelters can no longer care for, to find permanent homes."**



MEMBERSHIP

membership has benefits!

As an all-volunteer, member-supported non-profit organization, memberships are critical to support the MN HRS mission of rescuing rabbits in need while educating the public on rabbit behavior and proper care.

All members receive a one-year subscription to our chapter's periodic newsletter, which contains information about chapter activities, upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, rabbit stories, and much more.

In addition, members receive invitations to special "Members Only" events that give them the chance to get to know other rabbit people, share pictures, and tell stories about their bunnies.

MN HRS membership starts as low as \$10, with options ranging up to \$250. Memberships can be paid

annually, or in monthly installments through our Guardian Angel option. You can also join the national House Rabbit Society through MN HRS in one easy step! For details on all the membership options, see our membership form.

In addition, your membership supports our efforts to help the over 750 rabbits a year that find themselves homeless in the Twin Cities area. MN HRS works to educate the public through classes, our info hotline, MNHouseRabbit.org, and public events. MN HRS also partners with area shelters to help as many rabbits as possible to find permanent homes.

Join now to get the recent edition of the New Rabbit Thymes. What you see in this sampler is just a fraction of the wonderful information available!

CHAPTER MANAGER

what's new with mn hrs?

MN HRS has lots of exciting things to report!

Reducing Rabbit Sales

Pet's Advantage supply store opened in Woodbury last fall. They started out selling rabbits, but have responded to MN HRS input and are promoting rabbit adoption instead!

Beginning in January, two PETCO stores (Apple Valley and Roseville) joined our adoption program and stopped selling rabbits. The Minnetonka PETCO store will be joining in July, bringing our total PETCO adoption stores to four. One additional location (Highland) has no rabbits for sale or adoption, but features MN HRS educational materials and promotes rabbit adoption.

Promoting Rabbit Adoption

Three-ring binders featuring descriptions of rabbits available for adoption in Minnesota are being placed in pet supply stores all over the metro. Several shelters have reported rabbits that were adopted because people saw them described in these binders!

MN HRS is also in the process of developing a rabbit adoption program with the Animal Ark shelter, which previously focused exclusively on dogs and cats. This arrangement will show rabbits in a true home-like environment.

In addition, MN HRS has been directly involved in helping rabbits get adopted by offering rabbit "dating" services at local shelters, using PETCO spaces for shelter rabbits, and arranging special event promotions.

National Board Member Visit

Carolynn Harvey, DVM and member of the national HRS board, visited Minnesota in June for a veterinary conference and also worked in a visit with MN HRS! Several leaders joined Dr. Harvey for dinner and conversation one evening. The next day, MN HRS Chapter Manager gave Dr. Harvey the Grand Tour, visiting two shelters (AHS and HSCA) and three of the PETCO stores MN HRS is working with. Dr. Harvey also got a preview of materials MN HRS is assembling to be a resource to other chapters wanting to implement a similar program.

Invitation to Speak at National Conference

MN HRS' Chapter Manager has been invited to speak at American Humane Association's national conference in September! This is a very exciting opportunity to share the innovative approach MN HRS has taken with in-store adoptions. When we started this pilot, we had always hoped our efforts could become a template for other groups. This opportunity will be the first step in making that happen!

These are just a few highlights of the many activities MN HRS is involved in. In addition, we answer phone and email inquiries from members and the general public, which continue to increase in number as more people find out about us. Expanding operations requires a constant supply of general volunteers, as well as a need for more Educators and foster homes. If you would be interested in donating some of your time to help a rabbit in need, please contact MN HRS.

did you know?

Once two rabbits are bonded, they should be kept together even when one is sick or potentially contagious. Most of the time, the partner has already been exposed and separating them will only traumatize them both. If one rabbit in a pair needs to go to the veterinarian, the bonded buddy should go along. This helps the sick bunny stay calm and ensures he doesn't end up being rejected by his companion after returning!

A male rabbit can impregnate a female for weeks after being neutered. It's true!

In fact, recently neutered males should be kept apart from intact females for six weeks after surgery to insure there are no unexpected litters.

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Some alfalfa-based pellets and hay are too high in protein and calcium to be a healthy diet for pet rabbits; pellets with seeds or cereal are especially dangerous. Check the label and offer food quantities and varieties appropriate to your rabbit's individual needs. Or, try using timothy-based pellets and hay instead! MN HRS makes healthy choices available for sale; contact us to find out more!

ADOPTIONS

adoptable rabbits

These rabbits are just a few of the many bunnies in the Twin Cities area looking for a permanent home. Read more about them, and about other rabbits available for adoption, at www.petfinder.com.



Ariel



Darien



Mindy



Nicki



Bingo



Gizmo & Sadie



Cassie & Harley



Pippin



Flash & Mojo

Do you have a single rabbit who spends a lot of each day alone? Rabbits are naturally communal animals, so you may want to consider finding a partner for your bunny to provide companionship when you can't. If you'd like to find a companion for your rabbit, contact MN HRS.

mn hrs recommended veterinarians

The veterinarians on this list have exhibited a solid knowledge of rabbit medicine and are recommended by an HRS member. Keep in mind this is just a place to start your search for your rabbit's veterinarian. You should still check any potential veterinarian out to your own satisfaction and make your selection based on what you believe is best for you and your rabbit.

If you choose to work with one of these veterinarians, please let him or her know that the HRS recommendation helped you to make your decision. If your vet is not on this list and you feel that he or she should be included, please contact MN HRS.

Dr. Sheila Megan
Companion Animal Hospital
1321 Duckwood Dr.
Eagan, MN 55123
(651) 456-5665

Dr. Lisa Re Jeanetta
Dougherty Veterinary Clinics
215 E. 14th St.
Duluth, MN 55811
(218) 722-3963

Dr. Kate Ann Hunter
Dr. Kim Ammann
Carver Lake Veterinary Center
2201 Ventura Dr.
Woodbury, MN 55123
(651) 578-3290

Dr. Rich Lancello
Jordan Veterinary Clinic

560 W. Second St.
Jordan, MN 55352
(952) 492-5000

Dr. Larry Tholl
Valley View Pet Hospital
13600 Cty. Rd. 11
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 432-9661

Dr. Cynthia Fetzer
Camden Pet Hospital
1401 44th Ave. N
Minneapolis, MN 55412
(612) 522-4374

Dr. Peg Frank
Cottage Grove Animal Hospital
8136 E. Pt. Douglas Rd.
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
(651) 768-0200

MN HRS contacts

Mailing Address: Minnesota House Rabbit Society
PO Box 390691
Edina, MN 55439
651-768-9755

Voice Mail: MNHouseRabbit@aol.com

General Email: Board@MNHouseRabbit.org

Board of Directors Email: Ladybug@MNHouseRabbit.org

Spokesbunny Email: News@MNHouseRabbit.org

Newsletter Submissions: Web@MNHouseRabbit.org

Website Submissions: MNHouseRabbit.org

Website: MNHouseRabbit.org

Laura Franco – Adoptions
Michelle Nephew – Newsletter
Andrea Nye – Fostering

Licensed MN HRS Representatives:
Laura (Tessmer) Atkins – Educator
Tonia Baxter – Educator-in-Training
Joanna Campbell – Fosterer, Educator
Laura Franco – Educator-in-Training
Ingrid Harding – Educator-in-Training
Tanya Hulsey – Fosterer, Educator
Heidi Johnson – Educator-in-Training
Janet Kittelson – Educator-in-Training
Holly Lang – Educator-in-Training
Kari Nollendorfs – Educator-in-Training
Andrea Nye – Educator, Fosterer-in-Training
Julie Sutter – Educator-in-Training

Board of Directors:
Joanna Campbell – President
Ingrid Harding – Director of Education, Secretary
Tanya Hulsey – Director of Adoptions
Rich Lancello – DVM
Rachel Mathre – JD CPA, Treasurer

Mentored HRS Representatives:
Kear Cornelius – Educator-in-Training, Iowa
Kim Jackson – Educator-in-Training, Maine

Operational Leaders:
Tonia Baxter – Education
Joanna Campbell – Chapter Manager
Carissa Dahlen – Membership & Fundraising
Brenda Holden – Volunteering
Janet Kittleson – Website

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UPCOMING events

Bunny Basics Classes

Bunny Basics is a presentation by MN HRS Educators, providing an overview of several aspects of rabbit behavior and care. It's great for families considering a companion rabbit, for first-time rabbit owners, or for those who want to brush up on their rabbit basics. Registration recommended, and REQUIRED for SW Minneapolis High School events. FREE!

Adoption Events

Stop by and meet some of the rabbits seeking permanent homes! MN HRS Educators will be on hand to answer general questions, explain the adoption process, or even help find the right rabbit for you. FREE!

Upcoming Member Meetings

Join us Sept 9 and Nov 11. Contact MN HRS for locations and times.

Bunny Day 2004

Sunday, October 10, Madison. See WisconsinHRS.org for more details. A group of MN HRS members may be attending; let us know if you're interested!

Sat, July 24 12:00 – 3:00	MN HRS Info Table	Pets Advantage 7060 Valley Creek Pl., Woodbury
Sat, Aug 7 12:00 – 4:00	5th Annual Bunny Lover's Picnic	Hidden Falls Regional Park at the park pavilion, St. Paul
Thurs, Aug 12 7:00 – 9:00	Bunny Basics Class To register, call 952-894-5000	MN Valley Humane Society 1313 E Hwy 13, Burnsville
Sat, Aug 21 12:00 – 3:00	MN HRS Adoption Event	PETCO Highland 2277 Ford Parkway, St. Paul
Sat, Sep 18 12:00 – 3:00	MN HRS Adoption Event	PETCO Maplewood 3000 White Bear Ave.
Tues, Sep 21 6:30 – 8:30	Bunny Basics Class To register, call 763-489-2220	Animal Humane Society 845 Meadow Ln., Golden Valley
Sat, Sept 25 12:00 – 3:00	MN HRS Info Table	Pets Advantage 7060 Valley Creek Pl., Woodbury
Tues, Oct 12 6:30 – 8:00	Bunny Basics Class To register, call 612-668-3100	Southwest Mpls. High School 3414 W 47th St.
Thurs, Oct 14 7:00 – 9:00	Bunny Basics Class To register, call 952-894-5000	MN Valley Humane Society 1313 E Hwy 13, Burnsville
Sat, Oct 16 12:00 – 3:00	MN HRS Info Table	Pets Advantage 7060 Valley Creek Pl., Woodbury
Sun, Oct 24 12:00 – 3:00	MN HRS Adoption Event	PETCO Roseville 2575 N Fairview Ave.

Visit Us Online!

*www.MNHouseRabbit.org was recently completely redesigned.
Check back often for new information and features on your favorite furry friends!*