

TCHS FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



SHELTER HOURS
MON, TUES, FRI 11AM-5PM
THURSDAYS 1PM-7PM
SATURDAYS 11AM-4PM
CLOSED WED & THURS
SPECIAL TIMES BY APPT.

Essential Oils: The Hidden Dangers for Well-Meaning Animal Lovers

As Aromatherapy is becoming more widely accepted in the mainstream, more people are using essential oils on their own at home. Unfortunately, as some people are finding out, this is not always having a positive affect on the animals in their lives.

There have been many reports of animals harmed, even dying, from essential oils. Tea Tree *Melaleuca alternifolia*, has received a bad rap lately, most likely stemming from the fact that it is so widely available. Well meaning owners have used this oil to treat dermatological afflictions such as bites and scratches, only to end up at the veterinarian's office with an animal exhibiting signs of toxicity, such as ataxia, in-coordination, weakness, tremors, vomiting or depression.

Misinformation is an enormous problem in this area as well. As an increasing amount of people turn to a more natural approach at life, companies are jumping to cash in. Thousands of products include essential oils in their ingredients; pet products are no different. The average person, unaware of the dangers, can easily think these products would be completely safe when in fact they are not.

Many products for cats also contain essential oils. Unfortunately for the cats, many cat owners are unaware that by using these products, they can slowly cause toxins to build up in the feline's system, causing a slow onset of organ failure. A cat's liver cannot process toxins as a humans or even a dog's can, and the chemical constituents of the oils, such as terpenes, phenols, and ketones, are no exception. The effects of these can be immediate in showing up, or can take years.

While this may all seem daunting to an animal lover who also enjoys the benefits of aromatics, all is certainly not lost. A little knowledge can go a long way while incorporating essential oils in and around your animals.

PET OF THE MONTH



Meet Chip! Chip is a Lab/Mix already neutered, up to date with his shots and house broken. Chip has been at the society for quite some time now and is anxiously waiting for a caring home. He likes to go for long walks and knows a few commands. Chip would be very loyal to his new family. He is an all around good boy looking for someone to give his heart to.....

JANUARY INTAKE/ADOPTIONS

INTAKE DOGS:	8
CLAIMED:	2
ADOPTED:	7
FOSTERED:	10 (PUPPIES)
INTAKE CATS:	8
CLAIMED:	0
ADOPTED:	12
FOSTERED:	4

TOTAL DOGS-7

TOTAL CATS-51

TOTAL PETS WAITING TO GIVE
SOMEONE ALL THEIR LOVE: **68**

For several years, the last Tuesday in February has been designated as "Spay Day U.S.A.," and February has been chosen as Spay and Neuter Month by countless humane societies and animal advocacy groups. There are many ways you can contribute to this effort, starting with spaying and neutering your own pets.

Reasons to Spay & Neuter

- **Promote Good Health**
Neutering male cats will prevent testicular cancer. It will also vastly reduce the urge to fight other males, which inevitably leads to abscesses, torn ears, and sometimes death.
- **Reduce Potential Behavior Problems**
Unaltered male cats spray indiscriminately, and their urine has a pungent, musky odor that is extremely difficult to remove from walls, furniture, and drapes. Unspayed female cats also spray - it is a natural instinct designed to attract a mate. In addition, unaltered cats of both sexes will stop at nothing to escape the house for mating purposes.
- **Help Prevent Overpopulation**
The first two reasons are personal; this one is universal. You may think that because you can find good homes for your cat's babies, that you're not contributing to the problem. Think again. There are simply not enough "good homes" to go around. For every kitten you place in a good home, another cat loses its life in a shelter or pound.

There are countless ways you can help ease the overpopulation problem, and by doing so, save the lives of innumerable cats. Remember that a kitten not born is a life saved. If you can spay or neuter **just one cat**, you will potentially have saved the lives of several hundred cats. Remember, of those unborn cats, some of them will find homes; the majority will either be abandoned to die, or eventually to find a colony of other ferals, or will be "surrendered" to animal shelters, where they will more often than not, be "euthanized,"

TIME IS RUNNING OUT so don't forget to place your orders for the spay/neuter T-shirts. The shirts were designed by the Animal Activist from MAMS. Shirts are \$15 and you have the option of including your "altered" pets name on the back of the shirt for only \$2 per name. Forms can be picked up at TCHS or Bogey's Bar. Place your orders by **FRIDAY, Feb 5th!** Shirts can then be picked up on Feb 19th. Please show your support for TCHS and make sure you tell all your friends!!!!!!!

Next scheduled TCHS board meeting will be Tuesday, February 16th @ 5:30 at the library.

Next scheduled TCHS general meeting will be Thursday, March 1st @ 5:30 at the library. All members (and non members) are encouraged to attend both meetings.

The MAMS Animal Activist students were very busy selling "smencils". Thanks to their hard work, they raised more than \$730 for the animals at the society!!!! WOW!!! All of us, including our furry friends, would like to thank these fine, caring students for doing such an AWESOME job!!! We applaud ALL OF YOU!!!



"UNTIL ONE HAS LOVED AN ANIMAL, A PART OF ONES SOUL REMAINS UNAWAKENED"

