



We Are Animal Guardians, Inc

*Making A Difference,
One Animal at a Time.*

WAG
PO Box 572
Weare, NH 03281
(603) 529-5443

We Are Animal Guardians (WAG) is an all-volunteer animal rescue and adoption program dedicated to providing humane care, shelter, and placement for abandoned, abused, and unwanted animals. The primary goal of our program is to find animals suitable, permanent homes, while increasing public awareness about the responsibilities of pet ownership. We also provide a variety of educational and training programs, which ensure a more successful, long-term placement for both families and their pets.

What we do:

WAG primarily rescues or receives animals from 17 towns, filling a widely recognized, but largely unmet need in the southern portion of New Hampshire. The population of this area is approximately 70,000 people with over 11,000 registered dogs.

WAG receives 150 to 175 calls per month from individuals seeking to surrender their pets to a humane organization that does not destroy animals. This number has increased steadily at an annual rate. Local veterinarians and WAG's members also refer animals to the organization. WAG's access to foster homes or facilities able to accept these animals is limited. In an average month, WAG has 15 to 20 dogs and 30 to 40 cats available for adoption. To house these animals, WAG typically makes use of ten to twelve foster homes. Due to the increasing number of animals needing assistance, these arrangements are often inadequate.

Our History:

WAG began as a citizen's response to the number of animals being euthanized because they were stray, unwanted, neglected, or considered unadoptable due to their age. WAG has progressed from placing a few

animals to annually assisting hundreds of animals to find new homes.

In 1997, a formal organization was formed with a Board of Directors and development of by-laws. WAG was granted status as a non-profit organization under IRS Section 501(c)(3).

Today:

WAG operates as a "virtual shelter" with animals housed in foster homes. Animals receive medical care, are spayed and neutered before their adoption, and when needed, given behavioral training. Animals stay in WAG's care until a suitable adoptive home is found. Education and counseling is provided to new pet owners on animal and human behavior, interrelationships, and animal health. Currently, these services are in the form of "self help" materials and phone consultation.

Why WAG is different:

Our program is unique in several ways. We practice a philosophy of lifetime care for the animals rescued and placed. This means that should someone need to give up the animal adopted through WAG, we will take the animal back without hesitation. An adoption process of fostering first followed by adoption has provided a 99% permanent home success rate. Matching animals to adoptive homes is key.

To date, WAG has placed over 800 animals and assisted hundreds of others. Operating as a virtual shelter, animals in our care are housed in foster homes rather than a traditional shelter or clinic, sometimes staying with their foster family for life if not successfully placed in a new home. Though these arrangements have served the organization well in the past, the increasing number of animals needing assistance requires a central facility to

better utilize volunteers, available resources, and to provide emergency housing.

WAG's Board of Directors provides the vast majority of time and labor required to fulfill its mission. No directors or members receive monetary compensation, and no plans exist to institute such practices; however, the continually increasing demand for WAG's services has grown beyond what WAG's directors and its member volunteers can reliably provide on a long-term basis.

The Future:

We believe that a properly designed Adoption and Learning center used in conjunction with our foster home philosophy will allow us to assist many more animals through direct intervention and education of the public. WAG is in the design phase for an Adoption and Learning Center and is seeking an appropriate location and sources of funding for this project. If you would like more information about WAG, please contact Dave Bowers at (603) 529-5443.

2005 Events Calendar

Bowl-a-thon
February 27th
Boutwells Bowling Center
N. State St Concord

Spring Raffle
1st Prize \$ 300
Drawing July 4th

Benefit Auction
May 7th
5 PM
Old Weare Town Hall

www.wearewag.org

WAG is 501 c-3 non-profit corporation - Donations are tax deductible