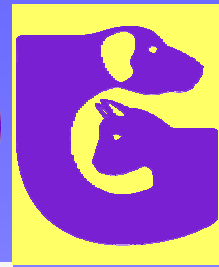


GAINESVILLE PET RESCUE

VOLUNTEER HANDBOOK



RESCUE



ADVOCACY



EXPLORE

GPR



EDUCATION



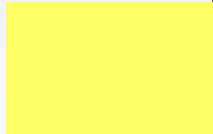
SAVING
LIVES



ANIMAL
CARE



COMPASSION



DEDICATION



Gainesville Pet Rescue

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"Rescue Rocks!!"



Introduction

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with Gainesville Pet Rescue! Volunteers are truly the lifeblood of GPR. As a local not-for-profit organization we rely on volunteers to keep us in business. The time you devote to GPR allows us to concentrate on more rescues from the animal shelter and expanding our media and fundraising programs; thereby creating a more visible presence in North Central Florida.

Please take a moment to review the information in this booklet. If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to contact the staff directly. Your varied duties at GPR will primarily be customer service, walking dogs, cuddling cats, reviewing foster journals, cleaning out cages, washing dishes, bagging food, and assisting foster parents when they drop off or pick up their foster animals. As you spend more time at GPR you will learn more about our policies and procedures and become more equipped to work directly with the public.

We will do our best to introduce you to all of the staff members and senior volunteers who can be a great resource to help you during your initial period of hands-on training. Feel free to check in with any staff member if you have questions or concerns and we will all try to guide you along and assist you in getting started on tasks that need to be completed. We encourage you to take the initiative as you learn the ropes and see what needs to be done. Consider yourself an integral part of GPR and our successful presentation to the community.

If you notice the shelves are full of kitty litter, or the dishes are piling up in the sink, please jump on in and help us get these critical tasks done. We will try to steer you in the direction of the areas that you wish to work but ask that you please be flexible in assisting with the myriad of tasks we need to complete daily. If there is a particular area of interest that you would like to focus on or if you have suggestions on how we can improve, please let us know.

Thank you again for signing up to volunteer at GPR. We will do our best to make your time with us enjoyable and fun and beneficial to all. We look forward to and hope for a long-term relationship with you as we continue to grow.

Best Regards,

Cheryl Swymer
Executive Director



History

Gainesville Pet Rescue, Inc. (GPR) is a 501(c)(3) non profit that works to find homes for unwanted dogs, cats, kittens and puppies. All animals are guaranteed a home regardless of the length of time pet may have to be cared for in our unique and very extensive foster care program. Since its inception in 1993, thousands of animals have been placed into loving, permanent homes.

GPR was established by a group of county residents who were concerned about the plight of cats and dogs. Their mission was to reduce the number of animals euthanized each year at the Animal Shelter due to lack of resources.

Who we are

Gainesville Pet Rescue saves about 95% of our animals directly from Alachua County Animals Services before they are to be euthanized. Once they are out of the shelter we bring them back to our facility and IMMEDIATELY place them into temporary foster homes. These foster homes agree to care for the animal until they are ready for adoption. ALL animals in our program are in foster homes as to avoid the devastating effect kenneling can have on a rescued pet. Our animals are always kept in a loving home environment where they are safe and happy. We are an adoption agency where our goal is to place as many animals as possible in to loving permanent homes. We pride ourselves on matching people with pets in order to make a life long commitment between the two. Our foster homes spend a lot of time with our animals and report important information to us in the form of a "foster journal", this way, we can know if a dog is good with other dogs, or likes cats. All important factors that go into the decision to adopt a pet. Gainesville Pet Rescue stands behind all of our animals for life, it doesn't matter if it has been one day or ten years if for any reason someone can no longer care for one of our animals we put it back into the program and begin the process to find it another home again, thus keeping our animals far away from the corridors of Animal Services.



Volunteering Policy



Introduction

Gainesville Pet Rescue exists to, “Save the lives of unwanted animals and promote responsible pet ownership through adoptions spay/ neuter and education. In line with this Gainesville Pet Rescue seeks volunteers to: Ensure our services meet the needs of our clients Provide new skills and perspectives Increase our contact with the local community we serve

Principles

This Volunteering Policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- Gainesville Pet Rescue will ensure that volunteers are properly integrated into the organizational structure and that mechanisms are in place for them to successively contribute to Gainesville Pet Rescue.
- Gainesville Pet Rescue expects that staff at all levels will work positively with volunteers and, where appropriate, will actively seek to involve them in their work.
- Gainesville Pet Rescue recognises that volunteers require satisfying work and personal development and will seek to help volunteers meet these needs, as well as providing the training for them to do their work effectively.

Practice Guidelines

The following guidelines deal with practical aspects of the involvement of volunteers. More detailed information, including copies of the various documents referred to, is provided in the Volunteers Handbook.

Recruitment

All prospective volunteers will be interviewed to find out what they would like to do, their skills, suitability and how best their potential might be realised.

Volunteer Agreements and Voluntary Work Outlines

Each volunteer will have a Volunteer Agreement establishing what Gainesville Pet Rescue undertakes to provide for them. In addition they will agree to a written outline of the specific work they will be undertaking. Neither of these documents is a contract; Gainesville Pet Rescue has no intention of creating a contract with any volunteers. Each volunteer will also receive a Volunteers Handbook.

Expenses

All volunteers will not have their travel and other expenses reimbursed.

Induction and training

All volunteers will receive an induction into Gainesville Pet Rescue . Training will be provided as appropriate.

Support

All volunteers will be supervised by the Volunteer Coordinator and/or the Executive Director. They will be provided with regular supervision to feed back on progress, discuss future development and air any problems.

The Volunteer's Voice

Volunteers are encouraged to express their views about matters concerning Gainesville Pet Rescue and its work.

Insurance

All volunteers are covered by Gainesville Pet Rescue's insurance policy whilst they are on the premises or engaged in any work on Gainesville Pet Rescue's behalf.

Health and Safety

Volunteers are covered by Gainesville Pet Rescue's Health and Safety Policy, a copy of which is in the Volunteers Handbook.

Equal Opportunities

Gainesville Pet Rescue operates an equal opportunities policy in respect of both paid staff and volunteers. A copy is in the Volunteers Handbook.

Problem Solving

We aim to identify and solve problems at the earliest possible stage. All complaints should be expressed to the Volunteer Coordinator or Executive Director orally or in written format.

Confidentiality

Volunteers will be bound by the same requirements for confidentiality as paid staff.

Adopting



Most of our adoptable pets can be viewed on our website in **See Our Pets** section. **Our website is updated throughout the week.** Anyone interested in a specific pet should call the GPR office at (352) 692-4773 to confirm when each pet will be available for adoption. We are open for adoptions on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10:00-6:00 each week. We always encourage a person to stop by and visit with the animals before making a commitment to adopt.

Once a person expresses an interest in adopting, they are provided an application. Once they have completed the application, they will speak with one of our adoption counselors. Our goal is to insure that we are matching the right pet with the right person and to answer any questions

To be considered as an adopter, you must:

- ' Be at least 18 years of age and show current driver's license.
- ' Have landlord consent.
- ' Be able and willing to spend the time and money necessary to provide training, medical treatment and proper care for a pet.
- ' Read and sign the "Before You Adopt" handout.
- ' Complete the adoption application and interview process.

Our Adoption Fee is \$100 (on most animals).

For this fee our animals have received the following care:

- ' Veterinary Exam
- ' Canine/Feline Vaccinations (FVRCP, DA2PP)
- ' Occult Heartworm Test (dogs over 6 months)
- ' Feline Leukemia Test (all cats)
- ' Feline Leukemia Vaccination
- ' Fecal & De-worming for intestinal parasites
- ' Monthly Flea Control & Heartworm Preventative
- ' Voucher for free visit to Veterinarian
- ' 30 Days of Pet Health Insurance
- ' Spay/Neuter

Most Commonly Asked Questions

Where do you get your animals from?

The majority of GPRs animals come from the Alachua County Animal Shelter. We rescue animals that are running out of time and are scheduled to be euthanized. We also take a small number of animals in as private referrals on a case by case basis.



How much is your adoption fee?

We have a \$100 adoption fee for **most** of our animals. There may be higher fees for some animals based on where the animal comes from and the medical treatment performed.

What does your adoption fee include and why is it so high?

All of our animals are up to date on all vaccinations, heart worm preventative and flea control. They are all spayed/neutered and de-wormed. The cats are leukemia tested and we also give everyone a voucher for a free vet exam to confirm everything we say medically and make sure they are happy with their new pets health.

In order for us to rescue an animal we have to pay Alachua County Animal Services for each animal we save. This fee can be anywhere between \$40.00-\$80.00. We then take the animal to our facility where we bring it up to date on vaccinations, Heartworm preventative and flea control. After this much care we have already spent over \$100 on this animal. In addition to this we also spay/neuter each animal and treat most of them for infections they have when they come to us. On average we spend close to \$199 for each pet we rescue.

How big will this puppy get?

Unfortunately the most popular question we hear when someone is viewing a puppy is, "How big will it get?" Unfortunately because the majority of our dogs are mixes we can not definitively say how big one of our puppies may grow to be. Please refrain from actual weight estimates and instead use terms such as small breed, mid size breed, and large breed. We can never guarantee that one of our puppies will mature to be under a specific weight.

What is this dog/puppy mixed with?

Again, the majority of our pets are of mixed breeding. Because of this we can not definitively say what any of our dogs are truly mixed with. We get our paperwork from the shelter and transcribe that to our medical records, so essentially we cannot truly say our dog is of a certain mix. It is always a guess. Occasionally you may get a customer who is very adamant about the other side of the mix. In this situation, "I don't know" is a completely sufficient answer. If they are unhappy with that answer please ask staff for assistance.

Volunteer General Information

Thank you so much for supporting the animals of Gainesville Pet Rescue. Below are some points that we'd like you to remember.. With your help, we can make this year our most successful adoption year yet!

1. You are the first representative of GPR that a customer will see when walking through our door. For that reason, please try to **wear a GPR t-shirt and/or name tag at all times** if you are volunteering on an adoption day. Make sure to greet people when they come in. Answer the questions you can and refer the questions you can't to staff or senior volunteers. Please maintain a professional attitude at all times.
2. Please remember to be a GPR ambassador as you go about your life. You can help us find new adopters, foster homes, and volunteers by spreading the word out into the community.
3. Please read the foster journals on each animal so you can learn more about them and then share this information with a potential adopter.
4. ALL of our animals are spayed/neutered and ~ 90% come from the Alachua County Animal Shelter. If a person has a specific question about an animals' medical care, please refer them to a staff member.
- 5. Please do not "hang out" at the staff desks or in the front desk area.**
6. Please put your personal belongings in the kitchen cubbies. We must leave staff desks and adoption tables free to be used for work and to process adoptions.
7. All well-care is to be done in the back treatment area, not in view of customers or on the staff desks, please.

You are the foundation of our organization. Without you, we wouldn't be able to find homes for the wonderful animals in our program.



What GPR expects from our volunteers:

- ' All volunteers must agree to follow the supervision of the executive director or any other staff member on duty.
- ' All volunteers must complete a volunteer application and sign the release form.
- ' All volunteers must be at least 18 yrs. Old.
- ' All volunteers will be considered representatives of GPR and will be expected to act, at all times, in a manner consistent with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, rules, guidelines, and philosophies of the organization.
- ' Any volunteer may be removed or suspended from his/her volunteer position, with or without cause, if the best interests of the organization would be served in doing so.
- ' All volunteers will be interviewed, selected, scheduled, and supervised by the volunteer coordinator and/or the executive director.

1. General Policy: Business Casual

Staff and volunteers are required to wear Business Casual attire whenever they are at Gainesville Pet Rescue or when acting as a representative for Gainesville Pet Rescue. "Business Casual" attire means dressing professionally, looking relaxed yet neat and pulled together." "Acting as a GPR Representative" includes all activity conducted on behalf of Gainesville Pet Rescue which said person is seen by, or interacts with, clients, business partners, members of the public, the media, or other third parties.

2. Excluded Items

The following is a list of items that staff and volunteers are not allowed to wear while at Gainesville Pet Rescue or acting as a representative for Gainesville Pet Rescue:

- ' Flip Flops, Sandals & Open toed shoes
 - ' Halter Tops
 - ' Short Shorts
 - ' Jeans are accepted as long as they are in pristine condition with no visible tears or holes.
 - ' No low riding pants or jeans where undergarments may show.
 - ' No see through or sheer attire
 - ' Jerseys, or sports apparel
 - ' Headgear of any kind
 - ' Chains, pendants, or medallions worn over clothes
 - ' Sunglasses while indoors
 - ' Headphones
-
- ' Volunteers once signed up for a shift shall inform GPR within 48 hours prior to their scheduled shift if they are unable to actually work the shift.

- Notify GPR of any change to address, phone numbers or email address.
- To be considerate and kind to all other volunteers, staff members and general public.
- To be considerate and kind to all animals with whom they interact.
- To remember that any funds disbursed by GPR are raised by GPR which means that funds are limited. GPR is always open to and willing to accept either in kind or cash donations.
- **If you see an animal has soiled their cage, needs to be walked, something needs to be wiped down, or trash needs to be emptied, etc...please just take the initiative to complete the task. Don't ignore it or wait for someone else to do it please!**
- If you're unsure of what to do or need something to do, please refer to the purple clipboard located at the front desk and pick a task from the list.

What Volunteers can expect from GPR:

- All volunteers will be given reading material, an orientation, and any other assistance that will help them better serve the organization.
- Adoption counselors are provided with intensive training and support during and after their training is completed.
- Staff support with any concerns, questions or issues that arise.
- Lists of tasks that need to be completed while at GPR and support and resources to complete those tasks.
- *Our undying gratitude*



WHEN SPEAKING TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT OUR ANIMALS:



- ' Refer to the pets by using their nicknames.
- ' Keep any comments about the pets simple and positive.
- ' Offer any information about the pet you may find from the foster journal.
- ' Allow the interested party to spend some time with the pet alone.
- ' When someone asks about the breed of a dog please refer to the (mixed) breed that has been determined from GPR staff written on his/her cage card. To be fair, it is best if we concentrate on the specific traits of each individual pet.
- ' We want people to adopt who really want that particular animal. We do not play on people's emotions to try and encourage an adoption.
- ' If you do not know the answer, just say that. Always refer to the foster journal to identify individual traits or behavior of the animals or ask a senior volunteer or staff member.
- ' We don't say that a pet's behavior or habit is "bad". Don't ever speak poorly of any pet or its behavior. We do not make negative comments concerning the length of time GPR has fostered a pet. The proper match of pet and owner varies in time.
- ' When a GPR pet is on display for adoption it is their chance at a new and loving home. As a representative of GPR it is your responsibility to present pets to the public as the wonderful and worthy animals that they are. The fate of GPR animals is in our hands. They can not speak and must trust us to represent them to the public, and act responsibly in doing so.
- ' *When you speak about the animals, remember that you are speaking for them.*

Customer Service



Good customer service is the lifeblood of any business. You can offer promotions and slash prices to bring in as many new customers as you want, but unless you can get some of those customers to come back, your business won't be profitable for long. Good customer service is all about bringing customers back. And about sending them away happy – happy enough to pass positive feedback about your business along to others, who may then try the product or service you offer for themselves and in their turn become repeat customers. How do you go about forming such a relationship? By remembering the one true secret of good customer service and acting accordingly; “You will be judged by what you do, not what you say.”

One of your biggest jobs with Gainesville Pet Rescue is going to be customer service and educating the public about our program. It is very important to interact and strike up a conversation with everyone that walks through our door. This initial conversation is a FANTASTIC opportunity to educate the public about our program and what we do.

Unfortunately the majority of our traffic stumbles upon us or just happens to wander into our facility without really knowing what Gainesville Pet Rescue does or how it functions. When people initially enter our facility they will be greeted at the front desk and directed into the appropriate room to view animals. Once they are in the viewing room it is up to a volunteer to assist them and help them find the right pet.

I always begin by saying, "Welcome to Gainesville Pet Rescue, Have you been here before?" If the answer is no, and usually it is, this is your opportunity to spread the word about our great organization. The next step is to let the customer know how we work. "We primarily get the majority of our animals from Animal Services before euthanasia. They are ALL in foster homes, which allows for them to be loved and cared for daily. The foster homes provide a "foster journal" to relay information about the animals personalities to the public. These journals are located on the sides of their cages, please reference them if you are interested in a particular animal. Please let me know if you would like to visit with someone or have any specific questions."

Generally once you mention that all of our animals are in foster homes you will be taken on a tangent of conversation. Our program is VERY unique in the fact that ALL animals are in foster homes. The fact that we provide important information about animals and their personalities really enhances our ability to match people and pets. We also offer a very high level of veterinary care. All of our animals are up to date on all vaccinations, heart worm preventative and

flea control. They have all been spayed and neutered and we send adopters home with a free voucher for a vet exam to confirm everything medically and make sure they are happy with the health of their new pet. This really is priceless when you are rescuing a pet. You can of course go to Animal Services and adopt a pet at a much lower fee than ours, however, often times when you do get an animal from them the pet is sick and will require much more expense in veterinary bills overall.

By striking up a conversation with all prospective adopters and hitting these few "key" points when in conversation you are helping to ensure that the person you are talking to will then leave our facility knowing where they want to adopt their next pet from. Likewise they are going to go home and tell all of their friends about this fantastic place they stumbled upon!!

Word of mouth is our strongest advertising!!

Here are some sample questions to ask when helping match a person & pet:

1. Are you looking for a dog or a cat?
2. Do you want a puppy/kitten or an adult?
3. Do you want a male or a female?
4. Are you looking for an active dog/cat or a "couch potato"?
5. Do you want a dog/cat to be inside or in the yard?
6. What size of dog/cat are you looking for?
7. Do you have a breed preference?



If someone wants to adopt an animal:

1. Make sure that they have already read the animal's Foster Journal and that they have already spent time with the animal.
2. Make sure that they are aware of our adoption fee and our adoption process. (Look above for a brief description of our adoption fee.)
3. Regarding our adoption process...The prospective adopter must fill out an adoption application, then they have a 30 minute to hour long meeting/interview with an Adoption Counselor. The interview is a screening process designed to make sure that we are making the correct match between the adopter and the animal. During that time, we also answer any medical or behavioral questions that they might have and give them literature to take home.

4. Give the adopter an adoption application.
5. Once they have filled out the application, look it over to make sure that they have completed all questions and appropriate sections of the application. If not, have them do so.
6. Put the name of the animal that they are adopting on the upper right corner of the application, and turn the animal's cage card inside-out.
7. Give the adopter the "Before you Adopt" handout located in the animal's file, and ask them to sign the sheet once they've read it. Explain to them that an adoption counselor will review their application and be with them soon.
8. Give the application to an Adoption Counselor. Tell the counselor any helpful information that you have gained from talking to the prospective customer.

*****Please do not state our adoption requirements to any customer*****

While our policy is no secret, we do not want people to "write what we want to hear" on the adoption application; we want them to be honest. If someone asks a question such as "will you adopt to someone who..." tell them that they would have to talk to an adoption counselor in order to answer that question.



GAINESVILLE PET RESCUE DAILY OPERATIONS

- Morning: if any cats have stayed overnight, clean their cage by giving them fresh food and water and change their litter boxes. Sweep cat room and take out the trash when finished.
- Prepare cages of any animals coming in that morning.
- (dogs- towel, bowl, toy, chewie, cage card, foster journal & water)
(cats- blanket, toys, hammock, cage card, foster journal & water)
- Remember to put cage cards on cages for all animals as they come in (if they are not already there).
- Walk dogs at appropriate intervals
- Clean cages if accidents happen, or if kitties need boxes changed. Please put any solid waste directly outside in dumpster.
- Clean out cages of animals as they are adopted. Disinfect and set-up for another animal if necessary.
- Refill water bowls and containers of water as needed
- Do Dishes if necessary
- Sweep Lobby & outside front door
- Sweep and straighten office as needed.
- Check “cat closet” and organize/refill any supplies if needed
- Clean inside and outside of front windows with Windex
- Turn door sign to “open” at 10am.

CLOSING SATURDAY

- All cages must be cleaned and left empty
- All dishes must be done – Sprayed with Trifectant first then washed
- All garbage’s must be emptied and a new liner put in the can.
- Sweep floor and tidy up front.



SAVING LIVES THROUGH SANITATION

Kate F. Hurley, DVM, MPVM
Shelter Medicine Program
Center for Companion Animal Health
University of California, Davis
www.sheltermedicine.com

Introduction

We spend a *lot* of time and energy cleaning and disinfecting shelters, and rely on this as a major barrier against disease. A clean shelter encourages adoptions and public support as well as protecting animals from disease. However, incorrectly performed, disinfection and cleaning can be ineffective or actually serve to spread disease. Disinfectants can even cause significant harm if used incorrectly. Detailed guidelines on cleaning and disinfection of shelters are available at the UC Davis Shelter Medicine Program Website, at www.sheltermedicine.com (shelter health portal, information sheets, cleaning and disinfection)

Four elements of an effective shelter sanitation program

- Use effective products
- Clean where it counts
- Minimize stress and fomite transmission
- Perfection not required and not an excuse!

To understand the challenge (and opportunity) of cleaning animal shelters, it is necessary to keep in mind a few key concepts:

Carrier: An animal which is infected *and infectious to other animals* but not currently showing signs of disease. What this means is that even healthy looking animals can spread disease to other animals. This can occur in several scenarios:

Animals that are just about to get sick

E.g. parvovirus can be shed a few days before signs develop

Animals that have recently recovered

Most infections can be shed for a few days to a few weeks after recovery

Some infections may be shed for months or even years, e.g. feline calicivirus)

The more recently-recovered animals you have in the general population, the more significance post-recovery shedding can have. For this reason, some shelters house recently recovered URI cats in separate adoption areas from vulnerable kittens or those cats who have never been ill

Chronically infected animals

Some infections create a long-term carrier state, in which the animal appears healthy most of the time, but constantly or intermittently sheds disease and is infectious to others. The animal may or may not appear sick during periods of shedding.

Healthy adults may have a sufficiently strong immune system to show no signs from a chronic infection, but may pass severe disease to young animals

Many infections are activated by pregnancy and nursing, so moms should be kept separated for the population's sake as well as their own protection

Feline herpesvirus (associated with feline URI) is particularly problematic in terms of a carrier state. The vast majority of cats that recover from this infection will remain carriers, and shedding (with or without signs) is specifically activated by stress.

Mode of transmission: this is the method by which disease is spread, and may include:

- Vectors: living creatures such as fleas and ticks which transmit disease
- Direct contact
- Droplet (4-5 feet)
- Airborne

Uncommon for cats; not a method by which feline upper respiratory infection is spread!

FOMITES: objects such as hands, contaminated surfaces, exam supplies, food and water dishes, etc. that serve to mechanically transmit disease

Dose effect: It takes more than one or two germs to create disease in an animal. Often the required dose is in the millions or even billions of particles. Dose required depends on both virulence of the germ in question, and the animal's immune status. Increased dose leads to greater likelihood of disease, faster transmission, and more severe disease.

Elsewhere, we discuss supporting the animal's immune system to withstand a higher dose. Here, we discuss methods to reduce the dose of disease to which animals are exposed. **Remember, we do not need to attain a zero dose, just lower the dose enough that the animal's immune system can ward off the rest.** Shelter sanitation is about lowering that dose enough to give the animals a fighting chance. If your shelter is especially hard to clean because of an old, dilapidated facility, you will need to work extra hard to support your animals' immune systems and take special measures to protect your most vulnerable shelter animals (especially puppies and kittens).

Getting down to brass tacks: what products should we use for cleaning and disinfection?



Cleaning products

Three types of product are generally used for environmental cleaning:

- **Soap/detergent:** Cleaning agent which works by suspending dirt and grease. Does not kill harmful microorganisms.
- **Disinfectant:** Chemical agent which kills harmful microorganisms. Does not necessarily remove dirt or grease.
- **Degreaser:** More powerful soap/detergent specially formulated to penetrate layers of dried on body oils and other greasy debris. Some disinfectants also have some detergent/cleaning activity. Bleach has none.

Choosing a disinfectant

In order to be effective, all disinfectants share some features:

- Disinfectants **MUST** be used at the correct concentration.
- Adequate contact time is required.
- Disinfectants must be applied to a basically clean, non-porous surface, free of organic matter.
- Disinfectants and detergents can cancel each other's actions, and should not be mixed unless specifically directed by the manufacturer.

There is no single perfect disinfectant for use in all circumstances, just as there is no perfect antibiotic for all infections. Shelters should become familiar with a small arsenal of disinfectants suitable for a range of uses. Strengths and weaknesses of various common disinfectants are listed in the table below. **ONLY** disinfectants specifically designed for use around companion animals and tested as safe and effective against the pathogens of concern should be used. This is not a place to get creative! Remember, a shelter is not a hospital or a day care center – people don't sit in the toilet and then lick themselves afterwards, but cats and dogs have full body/oral contact with whatever chemicals are in the environment.



Disinfectant	Good points J	Cautions L
Quaternary ammonium compounds (Roccal, Parvosol, A33, Maxxon, many others)	Some detergent activity Only moderate inactivation by organic matter (less than bleach) Low tissue toxicity Inexpensive	Not reliably effective against parvo, panleukopenia, calicivirus or ringworm Inactivated by soaps and detergents
Bleach (Sodium hypochlorite) Usually used at 1:32 dilution of 5% household bleach (1/2 cup per gallon), applied to clean, non-porous surface. For bleach containing other than 5% sodium hypochlorite, use our handy bleach calculator to determine correct dilution.	Completely inactivates unenveloped viruses when used correctly Effective against ringworm at high concentration Low tissue toxicity Inexpensive Can be combined with quaternary ammonium compounds	Significantly inactivated by organic matter, exposure to light, or extended storage. NO detergent activity Fumes can be irritating at high concentration Corrosive to metal. Hard water reduces effectiveness.
Potassium peroxymonosulfate (Virkon® or Trifectant®)	Completely inactivates unenveloped viruses when used correctly. Some detergent activity Low tissue toxicity Less corrosive to metal than bleach Relatively good activity in the face of organic matter	Not reliably effective against ringworm Comes in powdered form, not designed for application through hose-end applicator systems (can be applied through pesticide sprayers or specialized delivery systems) Leaves visible residue on some surfaces More costly than bleach
Chlorhexidine (Nolvasan®)	Very low tissue toxicity.	Relatively expensive. Ineffective against unenveloped viruses, ringworm.
Alcohol (usually in hand sanitizer)	Less irritating to tissue than quaternary ammonium or bleach. Ethanol (70% concentration) moderately effective against calicivirus	

Planning for imperfect disinfection

No matter what you use, it won't destroy all pathogens

Periodically use a different disinfectant (e.g. once a week)

Mechanical cleaning with soap and water helps a lot

- Surfaces in shelters should be non-porous and durable to facilitate cleaning. This includes flooring, furniture, dishes, litterpans and play structures in all animal areas.
- Exposure to sunlight and drying destroys many infectious agents. Moisture and cold (even freezing) actually help most germs survive.
- Dirt and grass outdoor areas can become heavily contaminated over time. Parvo and many parasite eggs are virtually impossible to eliminate from such areas once contaminated. Puppies should not be allowed access to outdoor areas until dewormed and completely protected by vaccination.

Prevent what you can't kill or where you can't clean

If a stainless steel cage gets contaminated with ringworm, no big deal – even without disinfection, stainless steel can be so well cleaned mechanically, you will be able to get rid of all the fun-

gus. If a group cat room gets contaminated with feline herpesvirus, it's also not a disaster – even if something hard to clean like a cat tree gets contaminated, the virus will die off on its own within a day or two. But put something like ringworm, which never dies on its own, together with something like a cat tree, which can't be very well cleaned, and suddenly you have a problem. That's why quarantine, careful screening and/or prophylactic treatment for hard-to-kill pathogens in hard-to-clean areas is so important. Hard-to-clean areas often include feline group housing, play yards, staff offices and foster homes.

- Quarantine 1-2 weeks for parvo/panleuk
- Screen for ringworm
- Treat for roundworm and hookworms
- In high risk populations, treat for coccidia, Giardia, whipworms
- Make sure puppy, kitten, new intake and sick areas cleanable
 - Concrete, gravel, straw
- Maximize sunlight on grass
- **What really needs cleaning?**
- Focus your precious time and energy on the most important areas for cleaning:

Pre-vaccination surfaces

- It is imperative that animals have contact with especially clean surfaces when they are first admitted and have no protection from vaccination
- For example, animal transport vehicles, carriers, exam surfaces, clothing of intake staff

Animal housing *between occupants*

- Pay special attention to kitten, puppy and sick animal areas

High contact surfaces

- “Get-acquainted rooms”, aisles, exercise areas, door knobs, telephones...

Daily cleaning and disinfection for pathogens of special environmental concern, e.g. ringworm, parvovirus

Yourself!

- Remember, we move about shelters much more than animals do. Investing in keeping our hands, arms, clothing and feet clean (either by cleaning or by use of protective garments) will often go at least as far as environmental cleaning in preventing disease spread.





PERILS OF CLEANING

There are many ways we can inadvertently foster disease during cleaning. Some things to keep in mind:

Use correct disinfectants, correctly

Use of disinfectants at the incorrect concentration, disinfectants not formulated for use around animals, or disinfectants that fail to inactivate significant pathogens can pose a significant hazard. There are numerous reports where incorrectly used disinfectants have harmed or even killed animals.

- Prominently post correct dilutions for all commonly used disinfectants.
- Provide all necessary equipment for correct application and keep this in good repair
 - E.g. measuring cups, hose-end foamers, spray bottles and mop buckets with correct level for water and disinfectant marked clearly
- Apply disinfectant for adequate contact time
- Replace disinfectant at recommended interval

Avoid aerosolization of dirt, hair, litter and respiratory irritants:

Although cats themselves can not create effective aerosols to transmit disease, we can do a very efficient job of contributing to airborne spread of disease ourselves during cleaning. Even if we don't spread germs, filling the air with the irritating fumes of disinfectants can compromise our animals (and our own) respiratory defenses. Reduce these risks by:

- Use a hose-end foamer rather than a sprayer for hose-end application of disinfectant
- Use a nubbin top disinfectant applicator rather than a hand sprayer
- Rags n' buckets are another alternative. To prevent spread of disease from dirty water/rags:
 - Use two double sided buckets (or four buckets, if you can't find double sided buckets) for:
 - Clean and dirty rags
 - Clean disinfectant solution and rinse water
 - Double sided buckets are readily available at janitorial supply houses on the internet.
- Avoid vigorous sweeping when animal are present. Use dust mops, electrostatic cleaners, or damp mops instead.
- Save high pressure hosing or power washing for areas/times when no animal are present

Avoid contributing to fomite spread of disease

Cleaning cages is one of the "dirtiest" activities in shelters. Imagine all the hair, poop fragments, food bits and other gross things that get stirred up and attach themselves to clothing, hands and arms during the cleaning process. This is especially true if cleaning requires a high level of animal contact (e.g. due to single rather than double sided cages). It is one thing to move all dogs to one side of a set of double sided runs, lower the guillotine doors, and hose out the area. It is quite another matter to physically enter a cage, remove a dog or cat (contaminating hands and

clothing in the process) and move it to another cage or temporary holding area. If an ultraviolet light could detect the buildup of germs on clothing over the course of cleaning, no doubt the results would be spectacular. You can get a sense of this by using the product “glo-germ” (www.glogerm.com), which mimics the spread of germs and does fluoresce under a UV light. Sprinkle some on a stuffed cat, around a cage and in a litter pan, then try handling the cat and cleaning the cage as usual. Light yourself up with a woods lamp afterwards and see where the “germs” have managed to cling. To minimize fomite spread of disease:

- Minimize animal handling during cleaning (see spot cleaning below)
- Evaluate animal health prior to cleaning.
 - In general population areas, mark animals with signs of illness, and handle/clean those animals only after all healthy animals have been cleaned.
- Clean in order of healthy/vulnerable to less vulnerable/sick (see below)
- Do not let animals run loose during cleaning of single cages (e.g. don't let kittens run around on the floor of the cattery while cleaning cages. If animals are allowed loose in common areas, this should take place after cleaning has been completed.)
- Change clothing and wash hands between areas and after cleaning (and before going home to your own beloved pets)
 - Changing clothing after cleaning is probably one of the simplest, most important things you can do to protect animal health. Usually we complete cleaning in the morning, then handle new incoming animals for the rest of the day. If we're still wearing the clothes we had on when we were cleaning, all those new creatures are exposed to a whopping dose of whatever's going around in the shelter before we even have a chance to vaccinate them.

Order of cleaning

To avoid transmitting disease from healthy carriers to vulnerable animals, cleaning should proceed from the cleanest areas of the building housing the most vulnerable animals to the most contaminated areas and the least vulnerable animals, e.g.:

Adoptable kittens/puppies

Adoptable adult animals

Stray/Quarantine kittens/puppies

Stray/Quarantine adult animals

Sick animals and isolation areas

Separate protective garments, brushes, mops and other supplies should be used for each of these areas.

Still not convinced?

Here's a bacterial culture taken from a dirty scrub top after a typical morning in a shelter. Although these bacteria may not be harmful in themselves, they reflect the likely viral (and fungal) contamination carried by soiled clothing. Gross!

Avoid disrupting cats' lives:

Avoid moving cats from cage to cage or cage to external carrier when possible

- Moving from cage to cage is sufficient to activate latent herpesvirus infection and cause URI in a significant percentage of cats
- Moving from cage to cage requires handling when heavily contaminated from cleaning, and fosters spread of disease

Double sided cages are great – use them if you have them!

If not, consider in cage cleaning for cats

Consider small group housing for cats rather than single cages – permits cleaning while cats re-



main in residence

If you must move cats from cage to cage, try to keep a carrier with them (ideally) or at least bedding if it is not too heavily soiled.

Double sided cages

These work great to clean animals efficiently and with minimal disruption. Except in a dire emergency, resist the temptation to over-crowd and place an animal on either side of a double sided set-up. If you must double up, it is preferable to house two compatible animals per double sided run, which still allows the kennels to work in the manner intended. If you're building a new facility, hold out for double sided runs for both dogs and cats (even more important for cats than dogs). This is *especially important*

in new intake areas where disease risk is highest.

In cage cleaning for cats:

"Spot cleaning" done correctly saves times, reduces disinfection cost and chemical use, lowers potential for staff injury, is less stressful for cats, and reduces fomite transmission from handling during cleaning or transfer to incompletely disinfected cages. This is appropriate for healthy cats, and may also be used for sick cats except those infected with pathogens of significant concern for environmental contamination (e.g. ringworm, panleuk). Suggested procedure:

- Have a carrier or hiding box in cage where possible (even a donut boxes, paper bags, colanders and dish pans have been used in shelters for this purpose)
- Clean gently around cat
 - Wipe walls (important to remove snot marks from day to day to permit monitoring); no need to rinse if disinfectant or mild detergent used at correct dilution
 - Hard core disinfection not needed
 - Do not spray around cat
 - Brush out spilled litter
 - Replace litter pan (prepare fresh litter and dump soiled litter away from cats if possible)
 - Leave bedding with cat unless heavily soiled or cat has serious infection (ok to leave URI cats with bedding, but avoid with ringworm, panleukopenia, coccidia, Giardia)

Deep clean only between cats or when cage is heavily soiled

Have a few carriers available for litters of kittens or cats that need to be removed to clean heavily soiled cages

Clean carriers between uses

If single cages are all you've got and you must move animals for cleaning, what are the options?

Spot cleaning is practical for many cats, especially if a hiding place has been provided for the cat to hang out in during cleaning. However, it may not be possible with very active cats or litters of kittens. For dogs, this is generally only practical if they are walked frequently enough to minimize urination and defecation in runs. And for some shelters, cages will only be cleaned well if a hose applicator system is used, which necessitates removing animals from an entire cage bank at a time. In these situations, one of the strategies below can be used.

Carrier for every cat

If cage size is sufficient, carriers should be placed in the cage with each cat, and these

should be used to hold the cat during cleaning. Even if there is not room for a carrier in the cage, it can be helpful to assign each cat a carrier for the duration of its stay. For shelters with a high adoption rate, a cardboard (or even plastic) carrier can be assigned to each cat at intake and sent home when the cat is adopted. For shelters with lower adoption rates, this may be excessively costly, as carriers will have to be thrown away when cats are euthanized. If cardboard carriers are not practical, it is still better to assign each cat a carrier or transport cage for the duration of its stay. Cattle ear tags (or other plastic tags) with cage number, ID bands, or tape can be used to identify which carrier goes with which cat. That way the carrier/cage only needs to be cleaned once, between cats, rather than after every single use. This increases the chances it will actually be cleaned well. When carriers are used randomly for cats, sufficient cleaning between occupants is often a problem. When there are fewer carriers than there are cats, this is especially true – adequate contact time with disinfectant is a near impossibility when carriers must be used multiple times during each cleaning cycle. Metal carriers are much better than plastic carriers, especially if they need to be cleaned between each cat. Open wire metal carriers can be pretty well disinfected by dunking them in a large barrel of disinfectant and placing on a slanted surface to thoroughly dry. Plastic carriers are much more difficult to clean, and are prone to getting scratches which can harbor durable pathogens such as panleukopenia or Salmonella.

Extra cage bank or set of runs: If you have an entire empty ward or cage bank, you can move an entire group of animals, clean their runs, then efficiently clean the temporary holding bank you just used. A rolling cage bank can be useful for this purpose for cats and small to medium sized dogs. This has the advantage of allowing efficient cleaning methods such as hose-end applicators and removes animals from the stressful environment during cleaning.

If single cages are all you've got, continued

One empty kennel per cage bank, ward or side: If you don't have enough space to devote a number of runs to temporary holding, you can leave one space empty at one end or the other of a series of kennels and move animals over and clean one at a time:

Move animal and cage number to empty kennel

Clean just-vacated cage

Move animal next door into just cleaned cage

Repeat as necessary

Use cattle ear tags, clipboard or other movable kennel numbers so the cage number stays with the animals

This has the disadvantage that runs must be cleaned one at a time, which is less efficient and creates stress and possible respiratory irritation for animals in the adjoining kennels exposed to cleaning chemicals. It is almost impossible to guarantee adequate contact time, so there will be some exposure of each animal to the germs from animals housed on either side. However, this is still preferable than using a single holding run or tying animals out during cleaning, as the holding run or tie-out also will not be adequately cleaned with sufficient contact time, and every single animal is then potentially exposed to all the animals that were in that space previously during the same cleaning cycle.

EXTRANEOUS CLEANING TOPICS

Foot baths

Studies of foot baths show that even when these are consistently used, they do an imperfect job of preventing disease transmission. Foot baths become quickly contaminated by organic matter, reducing the efficacy of compounds such as bleach and (to a lesser degree) quaternary ammonium disinfectants. Ideally, shoes should be scrubbed as well as dipped in a foot bath; this is rarely practical in a shelter. Certainly, a damp towel emitting a few faint bleach fumes is ineffective at best. If foot baths are used, potassium peroxymonosulfate compounds (Trifectant[®] or Virkon-S[®]) or another disinfectant with good activity in the face of organic matter are preferred over bleach. Of course, the disinfectant also needs to be effective against the germ in question – Trifectant[®] works well for parvo or panleukopenia, but not so well for ringworm. Disinfectant should be deep enough to cover shoe treads, and foot baths should be changed daily or more often if heavily soiled. When it really counts, such as when actually treating animals for a highly infectious disease such as parvo in a shelter, dedicated boots or shoe covers are preferred.



Dish washing

- Commercial high heat dishwasher preferred
 - Between high temperature and mechanical cleaning, these are generally sufficient even for durable agents such as parvo/panleukopenia
- If hand washing, WASH before disinfecting
- Separate dishes, toys and litter pans and clean in that order
- Use stainless steel or disposable dishes and litter pans if at all possible

Laundry

- Hot water
- Bleach – no more than the usual “laundry amount” needed (1/2 cup per load for household size washers)
- Dry in dryer or direct sunlight (avoid hanging to dry in dank, dark areas)
- *Do not overload*: probably the most important factor! Clumps of poop and hair (or clumps of hairy poop) can retain infectious agents even in the face of an otherwise effective laundry protocol.
- This protocol seems to be sufficient even for laundry soiled with difficult agents such as parvo and ringworm.

Power washers

Power washers and variations there-of have the advantage of effectively removing organic debris and dirt. However, a drawback of these devices is that they have the potential to aerosolize harmful germs. This is particularly true of parvovirus – infection by inhalation (versus oral contact) can cause more severe and rapid disease. Therefore, power washers should only be used when no animals are present. Situations in which power washers can be used include:

- Kennels with double sided runs when all animals are moved to one side and guillotine doors are closed
- Move-able cages have been rolled into an area containing no animals
- All animals have been moved out of a ward for deep cleaning
- Remember that workers using power washers also need protection from inhaling aerosolized pathogens



Hands

Hand sanitation is frequently identified as the number one means of preventing disease spread. While this is undoubtedly very important, remember that when working with animals, our arms and clothing may also have close contact with animals, so hand sanitation alone is insufficient. Certainly, hand sanitation is critical to prevent zoonotic disease transmission – while we may transmit virus from one cat to another via a contaminated garment, we are unlikely to put that garment in our own mouths, where-as hands frequently make their way into contact with human mouths, eyes and noses, where germs gain convenient entry. There are three general methods to deal with hand contamination:

- **Gloves:** Obviously the most reliable method of preventing contamination, gloves do not rely on skill/technique (as hand washing does) and provide protection against even the most durable pathogens (unlike hand sanitizers). Gloves are required when dealing with such pathogens as parvovirus, panleukopenia, and ringworm. The drawback of gloves is the relatively high cost and potential low compliance. Following a Salmonella outbreak, one shelter provided cheap, plastic “sandwich making” gloves and required all members of staff and public to wear and change gloves between handling every cat. Because some people have significant latex allergies, non-latex gloves should be offered and latex containing products clearly marked.
- **Gel or foam hand sanitizers-**The advantage of hand sanitizers is ease of installation and use. Remember that higher compliance with a less effective product may actually lead to better results than low compliance with the “gold standard”. The disadvantage is that no currently available hand sanitizer is effective against parvo, panleuk, ringworm or other very durable pathogens, and these products are only partially effective at best against calicivirus. Therefore use of these products may cause a false sense of security.

- If hand sanitizers are used, the best choice is a product containing 60-90% ethanol. Chlorhexidine, Triclosan, and quaternary ammonium (benzylalkonium) products are less reliable against calicivirus; additionally, Triclosan is a phenol based compound; both phenols and quaternary ammonium have been known to cause toxicity in cats and dogs when applied at high concentrations. Although this has not been documented with hand sanitizer products, it seems prudent to be cautious as transfer to animal's fur and subsequent licking is probable. A few brands of alcohol hand sanitizers contain less than 60% alcohol – these have been found to actually facilitate transfer of germs rather than decrease it. Therefore, shelters should provide hand sanitizer rather than allowing/encouraging provision of personal supplies.

Hand washing:

- The advantage of hand washing is that it mechanically removes even those pathogens that are not easily inactivated by chemical disinfectants. Hand washing is required when:
 - Hands are visibly dirty
 - Hands are contaminated with a durable pathogen such as parvovirus, panleukopenia, ringworm or calicivirus
- Therefore, hand washing stations should be available throughout shelters. It is critical that these stations are provided with soap and paper towels at all time – disease transmission is actually enhanced on damp hands, so moistening hands without washing and drying will be counterproductive.

Proper hand-washing technique includes:

- Wet hands with warm running water
- Lather with soap
- Scrub all surfaces (away from running water) for a minimum of 20 seconds
- Rinse
- Thoroughly dry hands using two single use paper towels (10 seconds each) – if cloth towels are used, a fresh one must be used for each hand washing episode. Hands should be dried for 10 seconds on one area, then 10 seconds on a fresh area of the towel.
- The disadvantage of hand washing is that compliance may be low and/or it may not be performed with proper technique. In one pilot study of various hand hygiene strategies in veterinary students performing physical exams on horse, alcohol hand sanitizers were actually more effective in reducing bacterial counts than hand washing. The bottom line is, multiple options for hand sanitation should be available – at least we can hope that one or another will be used to some good effect.

Foster homes, offices, outdoor areas and other places that are impossible to completely disinfect:

Ideally, we prevent contamination of hard-to-disinfect areas through quarantine and prophylactic treatment as described above. In many cases, even if such areas do become contaminated by a sick animal, simply cleaning gross contamination and waiting a month or so is sufficient to allow any remaining germs to die off naturally. Contaminants that can be dealt with in this way include canine distemper, *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (kennel cough), canine influenza, feline herpesvirus, feline coronavirus (FIP), FeLV and FIV. Feline calicivirus is somewhere in between – less durable than panleukopenia, parvo and ringworm, but more durable than the preceding listed pathogens. Cleaning gross contamination entails:

- Clean up hair and poop (e.g. pick up yard, thoroughly vacuum home/furniture)
- Launder soiled bedding, toys, clothing etc.
- Wash and disinfect food dishes and litter pans

When the worst happens and hard-to-disinfect areas do become contaminated with a durable and serious pathogen (e.g. parvo, panleukopenia, ringworm, sometimes calicivirus), here are some things to consider:

1. *Take an inventory.* Think of everything the infected animals may have contacted (think back at least a few days *before* disease was diagnosed). Were they in a personal car or animal transport vehicle? Are there clothes, towels or blankets they might have touched? Toys, crates or beds you need to worry about? For shelters, think about every kennel and area of the shelter the animals may have passed through – get acquainted areas, offices, play yards, etc. Also consider exposed animals that may be carrying the infection without showing signs (important with ringworm, calicivirus).
2. *Clean, rinse, and repeat.* If you can't kill the pathogen, in some cases you might just be able to remove it by washing, vacuuming, etc. Even for areas such as kennel runs that are pretty easy to disinfect, there is benefit to washing and scrubbing the area first to make sure there's no organic matter to inactivate your disinfectant. For outdoor areas (weather permitting) flush with plenty of water, allowing the area to dry thoroughly between bouts of irrigation. For indoor carpeted areas, thoroughly clean and vacuum, making sure to get under furniture and into nooks and crannies popular with curious young foster animals. Although steam cleaning is unlikely to attain sufficient temperatures to kill these durable pathogens, it can help mechanically remove yet more contamination. Soiled laundry should be washed in hot water and bleach and dried in a hot dryer. Provided machines are functioning correctly and are not overloaded, this should be sufficient. Stainless steel dishes and cages can be disinfected and kept, but other items such as toys, plastic food dishes, and crates should be discarded.
3. *Kill what you can.* While bleach is a fine disinfectant for parvo, panleukopenia and ringworm when used correctly, it doesn't do well in the face of dirt and debris and of course can't be used on carpet. Potassium peroxymonosulfate (Trifectant or Virkon S) much better activity under these circumstances, and is a good product to have on hand for just such an occasion. This product is effective against parvo/panleuk *but not reliable against ringworm*. It can be mixed at normal strength (1%) and applied via a pesticide type sprayer, or mixed at 10% concentration and applied through an applicator system set at a 1:10 dilution. There is no guarantee you will eliminate every last particle of virus by this method, as it is unlikely you will be able to fully coat every surface of a grassy yard. However, reducing the amount of contamination will likely help. Because prolonged contact time may be helpful, allow at least a couple of hours after application before irrigating an outdoor area. Potassium peroxymonosulfate can even be used to disinfect carpets – obviously test in an inconspicuous area first to make sure it doesn't stain.
4. *Assess the risk.* For ringworm, success of cleaning can be readily assessed by performing environmental cultures. See the ringworm information sheet for more information on how this can be done. For parvo/panleukopenia and other durable pathogens, unfortunately we just have to make a best guess. Animal sheltering and rescue is all about balancing risks and benefits – it's rare that we get to choose a "no risk" scenario. Risk of re-opening an area to animals is lower if there was relatively light contamination to start with – a pre-clinical pup visiting the area briefly versus a sick litter spewing diarrhea or vomit into every corner. Risk is also likely to be lower if the area is uncluttered and relatively easy to clean, even if it can not be completely disinfected. Risk is lower during the summer in areas exposed to sunlight and drying, and conversely higher in moist, damp or cold areas. Also consider the risk of NOT re-opening the area. If animals will

be euthanized for lack of foster care, that's obviously a bigger deal than just closing off a play yard for a month or two.

5. *Apply tincture of time?* I have heard from foster homes that cleaned carefully after a parvo/panleuk exposure, disinfected where they could, and brought puppies or kittens in again after only a one month waiting period – and did just fine. I have also heard of places having problems even after several months of cleaning and waiting. Once you've done your best to clean and disinfect, and considered the risks from every angle, you may decide to leave an area or foster home closed to vulnerable youngsters for a time. (Usually 1-6 months is sufficient - longer times will be required in moist/dark areas and in cold versus hot, sunny weather.). There is no absolute guarantee that these pathogens will die off even if you close off an area for a year or more. However, repeated cleaning and exposure to sunlight and the elements will gradually reduce contamination. Vaccinated adult dogs are at very low risk of contracting parvo, so foster homes closed to puppies could concentrate on helping older dogs for a time. The same applies to adult cats and panleukopenia. Because of the possibility that canine parvo can infect cats, any place closed to puppies should also be off limits to kittens.

Implementation

- Whatever you decide to do...write it down!
- Train staff and volunteers
- Check periodically
- Help your colleagues stay sharp
- Reward and acknowledge careful cleaning

Summary: above all, do no harm

- Avoid fomite transmission during cleaning
 - Minimize moves
 - Separate supplies for separate areas
 - Separate dirty and clean workers or activities
 - Change after cleaning
- Use products that work
- Prioritize housing that permits low stress/low movement cleaning
- Prioritize cleaning of important areas
- Train staff to screen for disease before cleaning and before moving animals to uncleanable areas to prevent spread and contamination

Disinfection resources

www.sheltermedicine.com

Cleaning and sanitation information sheet

Animal Sheltering Magazine (www.animalsheltering.org)

July 2003: Disinfection overview

May 2005: In-cage cat cleaning



THANK YOU!!!!

