

NO KILL POLICY

GCHS has operated as a no-kill shelter since 1999. GCHS rejects euthanasia as a means of population control or animal breed control, and only un-savable animals will ever be considered for euthanasia. No kill status can only be achieved when at least 90% of all the animals impounded (regardless of reason) are saved.

Un-savable: "Un-savable" shall include: (1) animals who are severely sick or injured and whose prognosis for rehabilitation is poor or grave and (2) vicious or dangerous dogs.

Irremediably Suffering: Un-savable animals include irremediably suffering animals. "Irremediably Suffering" shall include any animal with a medical condition who has a poor or grave prognosis for being able to live without severe, unremitting pain.

Vicious Dog: "Vicious dog" is a dog that has a propensity to, or history of, causing grievous bodily harm to people even when the dog is not hungry, in pain, or frightened, and whose prognosis for rehabilitation of the aggression is poor or grave.

Dangerous Dog: "Dangerous Dog" is a dog adjudicated to be vicious by a court of competent jurisdiction and where all appeals of that judicial determination have been unsuccessful.

Common Conditions: A list of common conditions seen in shelter animals categorized appropriately:

- **Savable - Healthy:** Age (senior/geriatric animals), behavior issues typical with dogs and cats such as house soiling, social shyness, barking, escaping, blindness, fleas, ear mites, missing limb, pregnancy.
- **Savable - Treatable:** Allergies (including dermatitis), broken bones, dental conditions, FeLK, FIV, asymptomatic heartworm positive, hyperthyroid, lacerations, mange, demodectic or sarcoptic, motherless neonates, ocular conditions such as "cherry eye", otitis, respiratory infection such as kennel cough or URI, ringworm, separation anxiety, conditions resolved via surgery, food guarding, UTI's, stomatitis, diabetes, abscesses, canine parvovirus and feline distemper (adult animals).
- **Un-Savable:** Canine parvovirus and feline distemper (puppies and kittens), vicious dogs, cancer with poor prognosis, symptomatic FeLK, end stage renal failure.
- **Feral Cats:** May be savable or un-savable depending upon their medical condition only. For example, a feral cat with no known medical condition is considered "feral/healthy". A feral cat with a respiratory infection is considered "feral/treatable". Both categories are savable.

Effective 10/14/09