APNM’s 2009 Initiatives

Animal Control, Law Enforcement and Animal Cruelty Task Force Casework

Develop capacity to ensure effective enforcement of New Mexico's laws against animal cruelty, to include: hosting animal cruelty/animal fighting hotlines and providing technical support to the public and agencies on cases (more than 2,000 cases were handled in 2008); working with N.M. Attorney General to further develop the New Mexico Animal Cruelty Task Force; underwriting law enforcement training on animal fighting/animal cruelty investigations and a broad range of topics pertaining to animal control and sheltering; and maintaining an animal cruelty database to track disposition of New Mexico cases.

Promoting Humane Animal Shelters

Provide comprehensive input to the Animal Sheltering Services Board on all aspects of animal sheltering, including shelter and euthanasia standards, and disposition of capital outlay funds for shelter and spay-neuter facilities. Support the transition to humane euthanasia in New Mexico communities.

Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE)

Maintain and promote CARE network of safe havens across New Mexico for animals of domestic violence victims.

Spay-Neuter Promotion and Program Support

Work with communities to create effective spay-neuter programs, secure capital outlay for spay-neuter facilities (through sister organization Animal Protection Voters) and promote New Mexico’s spay-neuter license plate.

Humane Education

Distribute Kind News newspapers to thousands of New Mexico school children, and promote and distribute humane alternatives to classroom dissection of animals. Kind News is published by the Humane Society of the United States.
**Getting Dogs Off Chains**

Using a N.M. Department of Public Safety report on dog chaining, develop and implement comprehensive plan to improve the quality of life for New Mexico’s dogs by: creating a pilot program to ensure success; teaching people that dogs are social beings who should not be isolated on chains; making behavioral training resources available; helping people with fencing and housing solutions.

**Chimpanzees to Sanctuary**

Expose the plight of former research chimpanzees and their progeny still living in substandard conditions in a New Mexico facility, and work to have them moved to a bona fide chimpanzee sanctuary.

**Coexisting With Beavers**

Work with state and federal agencies to promote humane solutions to problems caused by beavers by: educating agencies and the public about the benefits of flow devices and coexisting with beavers; creating a comprehensive landowner education packet on beavers and mitigation options; working with agencies on a model habitat and relocation evaluation procedure; and promoting beaver coexistence as part of river restoration and water conservation strategies.

**Wildlife Safe Passages**

Work with wildlife advocates and other community stakeholders to evaluate, plan and implement short- and long-term strategies that ensure safe wildlife passage concepts are incorporated into transportation construction projects in New Mexico.

**Wildlife Management Policies**

Using the best available science and public support for coexistence with wildlife, influence policy-makers to change regulations harmful to wild species.

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