

# Making A Difference

BC Chihuahua Rescue	Email only	<a href="mailto:rossmja@gmail.com">rossmja@gmail.com</a>
BC Marine Mammal Response	800-465-4336	Dead/Injured marine wildlife (excluding fish)
Cat - Nap	250-754-6546	Community members helping to re-home abandoned cats
City Pound	250-754-1397	Animal Control / Bylaw Enforcement
Highways Department	800-661-2324	Dead wildlife on Highway/Parkway
Ministry of Environment	877-952-7277	Dogs chasing deer, dying wildlife
Nanaimo & District SPCA	250-758-8444	Animal Protection
Respect – A – Bull Rescue	250-244-3485	Pit Bull rescue/adoption
The Ferret Lady	250-753-3757	Lynn Fink – anything ferret related
Volunteer Nanaimo	250-758-7121	Find suitable places to volunteer your time
Wild Aid	250-616-8888	Injured wildlife

Dogs chasing deer – call the Ministry of Environment  
 Dogs chasing people – call the City Pound  
 People chasing dogs (or any animal abuse) – call the SPCA  
 Dead deer in town – call the City Pound  
 Dead deer on Highway/Parkway – call the Highways Dept 1-800  
 Dying/severely injured deer anywhere – call the Ministry of Environment

## City Pound

- Responsible for animal control and by-law enforcement (i.e. licensing) as well as collecting dead animals within the city.
- Accept animals for surrender and do have adoption policies in place.
- Funded by the city and therefore do not accept financial donations but always appreciate treats for the animals.
- Volunteering to walk dogs and socialize with cats is possible but you are requested to call prior to arrival to ensure that there are suitable animals in need.

## Local SPCA's

- They are responsible for animal protection and animal welfare.
- They accept animals for surrender and do have adoption policies in place.
- Low cost spay and neuter program for cats and dogs.
- They are a registered charity and as such rely on public donations.
- Many different opportunities to volunteer including fostering

## BC Marine Mammal Response

- Respond to dead and injured marine mammals including sea turtles.
- Governed by Fisheries & Oceans Canada but operated as a collaborative effort between government, researchers, conservation and many small wildlife rescue groups and volunteers.
- Always in need of volunteers to assist with photographing carcasses and accessing injuries, usually by way of photographs.

## Small local animal rescue groups

- Many groups work with existing Shelters to assist with re-homing animals
- Most are registered charities and rely on public donations
- Always appreciate pet food, toys, bedding
- Due to the lack of permanent facilities foster homes are always needed.

# Easy ways that **YOU** can make a difference

- Be a responsible pet owner. Know that when you take on a pet – you do so for the life of that pet.
- Know WHO to call for WHAT situation.
- Donate your time and experience.
  - Many groups need help with everything from cleaning and caring for animals at a facility to fostering animals in your home to sitting on a board.
  - Do you enjoy fundraising or helping out with special events?
  - Maybe you would consider sitting on a board of directors or doing office work?
- Donate items that are used in day-to-day operations. Things like bleach, paper, printer ink, food, toys, bedding, etc help to offset costs thereby allowing more money to go directly to animal care.
- Become a member of your organization. Membership gives non-profit groups a voice in the community - and to law and policy makers in the case of groups like the SPCA.
- Do you own a business? Consider donating a gift certificate or service to be used as a fundraising tool. This is a win-win situation. Your business gains some extra exposure and you may end up with a new customer.
- Donating money can sometimes be difficult in these trying times however it is important to know that even a small amount can be significant to an organization.
  - Many groups will accept as little as a \$10/month donation taken directly from your bank. Many smaller organizations appreciate a direct payment to their vet or food/supply store.
  - Check with the company you work for. Many companies have matching gift programs. If you donate money to a charity – so will they.
  - Get together with your neighbours and collect/return empty bottles. Donate all or a portion of the proceeds.
  - Host a party and ask your guests to bring donations for your local organization. Many children do this for their birthday parties.
  - If you see that your organization is hosting an event – attend – and bring friends. You will have an enjoyable time; meet like-minded people and you may even win a prize.
- Open your home to a foster animal. Not everyone wants to, or can, have pets 24/7/365. Fostering allows you to open your home **temporarily** to an animal in need. This can be anything from a mum with a litter to orphaned young and sick or injured animals needing a safe place to recuperate. It's a great way to teach your kids about animals without having to make a lifetime commitment.
- Tell 5 people what you learned today and ask them to pass along the message.