

# Pet News

Delta County Humane Society  
PO Box 1111  
Delta, Colorado 81416  
(970) 874-2149

April - June 2022

Web Sites: [www.deltacountyhumanesociety.org](http://www.deltacountyhumanesociety.org) or [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com)

## April is Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month

Those of us who love our animals would never think of being cruel to them. However, as we have heard so many times, “there are people who should never have children or own pets.” There are still so many cases of dogs and cats being stuffed together in cages, neglected – or dogs chained in their yards without shelter, food or water. We hear of cats being burned or tortured.

No, it is not pleasant to hear these facts, and hopefully you will never witness them in person. But, if you do see a situation where you think abuse is happening to an innocent animal, then please do the right thing and call the proper authorities so they can go and check on the animal. The animal being abused cannot speak for itself, or save itself from its horrendous situation. ONLY YOU can help. Don't be that person who sees the animal abuse, says “Oh, how sad,” and then walks away. Be that person brave enough to call your county authority and possibly save the animal so it can have a better life.

In Delta County, Colo. you should call the Delta County Sheriff at 970-874-2000.

Please don't let this happen – be the person to save an abused animal. Thank you!



# Ear Mites: Tiny Critters that can Pose a Major Threat

*(Courtesy of Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine)*

Ear problems in general are uncommon in cats, but among the afflictions that do occur, ear-mite infestation is frequently diagnosed. Although it can't hop or fly, an ear mite can crawl. And if one of these miniscule parasites enters your cat's ear, makes itself at home, and starts to breed, it can cause major damage unless promptly evicted.

The typical external signs are quite obvious: the cat's outer ear is likely to be inflamed, and the animal will hold its ears flat against its head, scratch at them constantly, and shake its head frequently—as if trying to dislodge a bothersome object. They are also detectable by the mess they make inside an infested animal's ear canal—a dark, gooey, foul-smelling accumulation of wax and mite debris in which the tiny critter thrives.

"If the newly acquired mite is taking a stroll along a cat's backside or belly," says William Miller Jr., VMD, a professor of dermatology at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine, "the animal will groom it away with its tongue and swallow it. But the parasite is safe if it can make its way to the ear canal, where the cat's paw or tongue can't get at it."

Ear mites are almost microscopically tiny, "about the size of a pinhead," says Dr. Miller. But, he notes, it's possible to see their rapidly moving little bodies with the naked eye. Ear mites are extremely contagious, he notes, moving from one cat to another on close contact and eventually making their way to the ear.

If ear mite infestation is suspected, the cat owner should seek veterinary care without delay. Aside from relieving the animal's discomfort, treatment can curb infection stemming from the mutilation of the ears and face that results from aggressive and nonstop scratching. Veterinary care can also prevent a serious ear disease called otitis externa—an infection of the outer ear that, if untreated, can progress to the middle and inner ear and damage the ear drum, which can permanently affect the animal's hearing and sense of balance.

A veterinarian can readily diagnose suspected ear mite infestation by using an otoscope, a flashlight-like instrument used to explore the depths of the ear. If the cat is unwilling to allow this instrument near its sensitive ears, the veterinarian will use a cotton swab to gently collect a sample of ear debris for conclusive microscopic examination.

Treatment generally begins with a thorough cleaning of the cat's ears to remove any wax or debris that may shield the mites from topical medications. "There are many topical, oral, and systemic agents," Dr. Miller notes, "and most—such as ivermectin—are highly effective. Even one old-time remedy—baby oil—can do the job. A few drops put into an affected ear several times a day for a month or so will usually smother the mites."

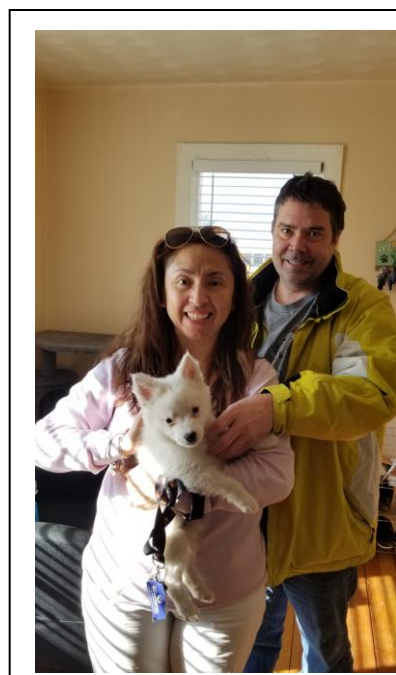
Subsequent treatment for mites as well as ongoing maintenance of a cat's ears, says Dr. Miller, can generally be done at home—as long as the owner has been given proper instruction by a veterinarian.

## ***Boy, have we got the adoptions to show you . . .***



← These two adorable kittens were adopted by this couple at separate times, but I'll let Chris (foster mom) tell the story: "Kathleen and John came to meet a kitten back in October 2021. As soon as they walked in the door, "Little Girl," my little gray and white foster that I had only had for a week walked right up to John and meowed at him as if to say "Here I am." That was it for her. John had wanted a gray cat. Little girl was only about 4 weeks old, and I told them that she wouldn't be ready for two months to go to her new home. Didn't matter - they filled out the paperwork and paid the adoption fee. About an hour after they left, Kathleen called me and asked if she could adopt Squeeky also. I said of course. She was ready to go to her new home. They came back and picked her up. After Little Girl was spayed in December, they came back and picked her up. They joined the other 2 adult cats that Kathleen and John have in their home. She showed me pictures of "her boys" and they are gorgeous. These 2 girls now live in Grand Junction."

Our foster mom, Chris, usually does only kitten or cat adoptions, but somehow she was convinced to care for two very active puppies. On Jan. 23, Jeff and Maggie of Aspen, Colo., came to look at "Snow White" and fell in love with her. Although their two teenage boys were unable to accompany them for the adoption, we are told that Snow White immediately won their hearts too when they got home. They plan on giving her a new name, and promised to send photos to us as she grows. Lucky girl! →



If you yell at a cat, you're the one making a fool of yourself.

All of the adoptions on this page were through our foster mom, Joan.  
Kittens are her specialty. Good work, Joan!



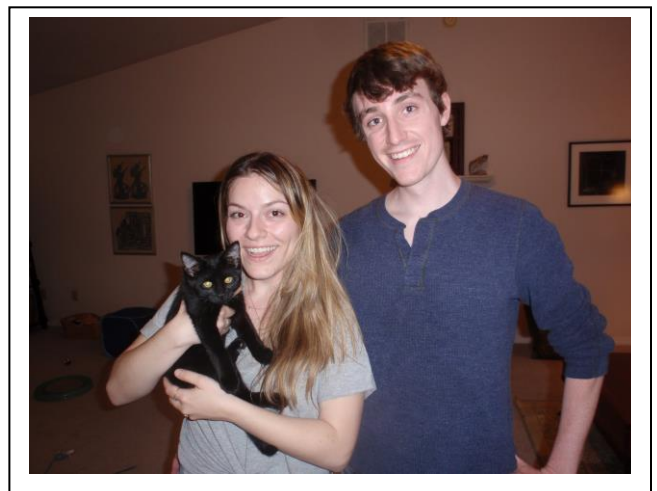
← Torrie and Matt, of Snowmass, Colo., had been looking for a kitten for quite some time. But, then they happened to find “Charlie” on the Petfinder web site & decided they should meet her. She looked so much like the cat that they lost recently. They fell in love!! Matt works from home so she will be very spoiled. Great adoption!



← “Fudge” was a very shy kitty – just the right person would need to come along & adopt her. And that person was Margie, along with her two daughters. Fudge was adopted on February 13 and now has a wonderful home with them at their farm in Olathe, Colo.

“Salem” was adopted on February 15 by Bella & Ian who live in a downtown Denver apartment. They have two other cats – Pumpkin (20 yrs. old) & Nathaniel (2 yrs. old). Nathaniel needed a playmate, and Salem fit the bill for that job, for sure.

Thank you for adopting Salem – please send us photos of your kitty clan soon. →



**. . . and these two “lucky pups” were adopted into the same home – how great is that!**



← DCCHS would consider Kathie to be a part-time foster mom, but she stepped up to the plate when asked if she could take on two pups that were not weaned from their mom as yet. Kathie didn't hesitate, even knowing that taking care of these adorable pups meant bottle feedings, little sleep, and listening to them cry for attention.

Since the pups were very bonded to each other, it was Kathie's hope that they could stay together, and she got her wish. Ken and Charlotte of Cedaredge, Colo., came to meet “Wrangler” and “Oakley” on February 12 and were immediately smitten with them – there was no doubt that both pups were going home with them. Thank you both for opening your hearts and home to these two cuties!

You may have seen this poem before, but it's so sweet, it's always worth sharing again. Who knows – it could help a shelter dog find a home.

*Before humans die, they write their last will and testament, giving their home and all they have to those they leave behind. If, with my paws, I could do the same, this is what I'd ask...*

*To a poor and lonely stray, I'd give my happy home; my bowl and cozy bed, soft pillow and all my toys; the lap, which I loved so much; the hand that stroked my fur; and the sweet voice that spoke my name.*

*I'd will to the sad, scared, shelter dog the place I had in my human's loving heart, of which there seemed no bounds.*

*So, when I die, please do not say, “I will never have a pet again, for the loss and the pain is more than I can stand.”*

*Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope, and give my place to him.*

*This is the only thing I can give...*

*The love I left behind.*

– Author Unknown



I need to re-home a dog. It's a small terrier, and tends to bark a lot. If you're interested, let me know and I'll jump over my neighbor's fence and get it for you.

### **Spay/Neuter Clinic – Delta County**

Clinic held & operated by: Bergen Spay & Neuter Alliance

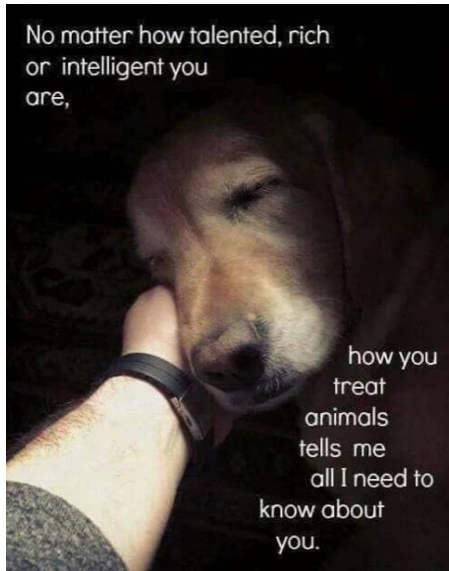
Dates: April 7-10, 2022

Host/Location: Advanced Pump & Supply, Delta, Colorado

Sponsored by: Mile High Canine Rescue

To obtain more information and/or to register, go online at:

[Colorado Spay & Neuter Clinics | Bergen Spay & Neuter Alliance \(bergenspayandneuter.org\)](https://www.bergenspayandneuter.org)



The Delta County Humane Society is a non-profit organization. This means all of your donations of money and materials are tax deductible. The organization is not funded by your government tax dollars. This is why YOUR membership and donations are so very vital to us. As many of you are aware, we have only a small force of volunteers who care for the abandoned and unwanted animals in their homes until they can be provided with a permanent and suitable home. If you are concerned with the well-being of our animals and would like to help financially with a membership or donation, please fill out this form and return it with your check. If you have material items with a value, please call our office (970-874-2149) and leave a message. (We are always in need of blankets, towels, dog houses and runs, pet food, carriers, collars, leashes, food bowls, large food storage containers, wire fencing, etc.)

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**MEMBERSHIP: \$10 (annual) \$20 (supporting) \$100 (lifetime)**

**MEMBERSHIP: \$\_\_\_\_\_ DONATION: \$\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**GYPSY FUND DONATION \$\_\_\_\_\_ (feral cats)**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_**

**ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** DELTA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 1111  
DELTA, CO 81416

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THE HOMELESS ANIMALS  
OF DELTA COUNTY