

Utah's Week for the Animals



It's the nation's first state-wide week dedicated to animals. Utah's Week for the Animals brings together people and groups from all over the state – humane societies, shelters, animal welfare programs, schools, corporations, and local government – all helping to build a better world for animals.



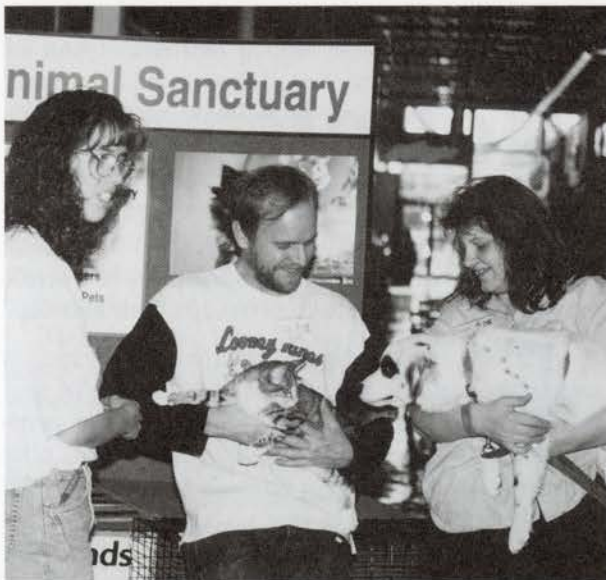
This year's Week, at the end of October, included:

Pet Adoption Fairs in malls, stores, and parks. An adoption fair at Salt Lake City's Cottonwood Mall this year brought together animal rescue and adoption groups from all over the state.

Discount Spaying and Neutering. Veterinarians all across the state offer discounts of up to 50% on spaying and neutering. More than 1,000 dogs and cats were fixed at this year's spay/neuter-thon.

Children's Art and Literary Contest. There were 2,500 entries in this year's contest with youngsters expressing their care for animals and competing for cash scholarship prizes in different grades and categories. Winners came from all corners of the state to receive their awards at a party for about 1,000 children.





School Programs. Videos and booklets on animal care and kindness were distributed throughout the state as learning aids. Museums put on special programs for the week.

Seminar for Teachers and Youth Leaders. This was a new component in this year's Week. Educators and youth leaders met to discuss new ways to help build a more humane community. Special thanks to Stephen Zawistowski of the ASPCA for helping get this program off to a great start.

Awards for Distinguished Service to Animals. Another new component this year. This gala event recognizes special people and organizations in the state who have helped ensure a better future for companion animals. One of the winners, 11½-year-old Tommy East, had put in 600 hours as a volunteer at Tracy Aviary. And more than \$22,000 was raised for animal care programs at the live auction after dinner.

You can do it in your community, too. Utah's Week for the Animals is a model of what can be achieved in any community when the animal organizations work together.

We'll be delighted to help you build a similar program for your community – whether it's state, city, or neighborhood. You can download our simple manual from the Best Friends site on the World Wide Web, or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a printed copy. 🐾

For more information, visit the 2001: No More Homeless Pets section of the Best Friends site on the World Wide Web at www.bestfriends.org

