

## **NEWS RELEASE**



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, California 90012 / www.LAAnimalServices.com

CONTACT: Public Relations Office (213) 272.8700

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## **EASTER RABBITS ARE NOT FOR KIDS!**

Los Angeles – Imagine a smiling child in an adorable Easter outfit clutching a cute baby bunny in her arms. What's wrong with this picture? Contrary to the Easter time hype, rabbits and small children are not a good match! The natural exuberance, not to mention decibel-level of even the gentlest toddler, is much too stressful for these sensitive creatures.

Rabbits are not for everyone! LA Animal Services is looking for gentle adults who live in a quiet household, who are eager to get to know rabbits on their own terms - to spend time on their level, on the floor; to allow the rabbit to initiate gestures of friendship and trust.

Rabbits make wonderful companion pets for adults. They can even be housetrained, although Thumper will chew electrical cords, rugs, books, and furniture so you'll need to rabbit proof your home. Rabbits must live indoors, as members of the family. Predators abound, and outdoor rabbits become bored and depressed from isolation. To consign this sensitive, intelligent, social animal to life in a hutch is to miss all the joy of sharing your life with a rabbit. Unless he's part of your daily routine, you will not have the opportunity to really get to know his subtle personality.

If you think you may be one of those exceptional individuals who would enjoy sharing life with a rabbit, please visit your local LA Animal Care Center or our website at

http://www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani\_rabbits.htm for more information. All LA Animal Services rabbits are spayed or neutered!

"Rabbits are the third most popular pet in Los Angeles" said Ed Boks, general manager of LA Animal Services, "and too many suffer the same fate as our other companion animals - abandonment. Especially after Easter."

Rather than declaring a moratorium on Rabbit Adoptions this Easter, Animal Services is asking responsible adult Angelenos to search their heart and find room for a rabbit! "It's a sad fact that no matter where you live in LA, you are within 10 miles of a rabbit who needs a home", said Boks. "The effort made to find that special bunny means you are saving a life."

Rabbit Adoption Counselors are always available to help with the Adoption Process, or you can call your closest Animal Care Center to make an Adoption Appointment.

But if little Susie or Bobby start pleading for a bunny for Easter, do a rabbit a favor, and buy them a toy rabbit that they can snuggle to their heart's content. Let's make Easter a joyful time for our long-eared friends.

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at 1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381

(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at <a href="https://www.LAAnimalServices.com">www.LAAnimalServices.com</a>.