



NEWS RELEASE



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Los Angeles City Animal Shelters Go "Green" for "St. Pawtrick's Day" Adoption Event on March 19th

Los Angeles, CA - LA Animal Services is going "green" for "St. Pawtrick's Day," its first-ever "green" adoption event, at all six LA City Animal Shelters on Saturday, March 19th from 10 am to 5 pm. The event, presented in association with Ruff Patches, features discounted adoption fees, "matchmakers" to help members of the public find their new best friend, professional behavior trainers, organic food trucks and other natural refreshments, and a "Kiss the Blarney Dog" Kissing Booth. Adopters will receive a reusable tote bag filled with eco-friendly pet supplies and all-natural pet food (while supplies last). Other humane groups participating in the event include Much Love Animal Rescue, Friends of Harbor Animals, Karma Rescue, Stray Cat Alliance and Kitten Rescue.

"There are many ways to be a 'green' companion animal guardian," said LA Animal Services General Manager Brenda Barnette. "The most important way to start is to adopt animals from our shelters, instead of buying or breeding animals. We're excited for this opportunity to work with Ruff Patches and other local humane groups to promote adoptions and provide information to the public on how they can reduce their carbon pawprint."

Adoption fees for dogs and cats will be discounted by \$20 at all LA City Animal Shelters on Saturday, March 19th, sponsored by the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation. "We are honored to continue our partnership with LA Animal Services and participate in this community effort to find loving homes for LA's shelter animals," said founder Katherine Heigl.

"People don't realize the impact their companion animals have on the environment," said Christina Kilby, founder of Ruff Patches and the event organizer. "We hope that through education, and events like 'St. Pawtrick's Day,' people will have a chance to see that adoption and spay/neuter are the most important ways we can be environmentally-conscious and compassionate companion animal guardians. We are grateful to LA Animal Services, the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation, and all our sponsors, for supporting this day of lifesaving, earth-friendly events, and fun for the whole family."

At the East Valley Animal Shelter, the Bureau of Sanitation will participate with recycling information and an appearance by Mr. Robot Blue, the recycle robot. There will also be a demonstration by LA Animal Services' Small Animal Rescue Team (SmART).

“There are wonderful animals at the shelter who need homes,” said Barnette, “and we encourage people to go green, save green, and adopt on March 19th. We look forward to lots of happy adoptions as we highlight this important connection between our guardianship of animals and stewardship of the planet.”

For more information about “St. Pawtrick’s Day: A ‘Green’ Adoption Event,” and the activities happening at individual shelters, please visit www.laanimalservices.com or www.ruffpatches.org. Adopt a shelter animal on March 19th, and not only will luck follow you home, but you’ll be richer for the life you saved.

About LA Animal Services

LA Animal Services is the animal care and control agency for the City of Los Angeles. LA City Animal Shelters are LEED Certified by the United States Green Building Council, and the North Central Animal Shelter is LEED Gold. All mechanical systems at the shelters are energy-efficient, construction waste was diverted from landfills, and wherever possible building materials for the shelters have recycled content.

About Ruff Patches

Ruff Patches is a Los Angeles-based humane organization dedicated to educating and assisting pet guardians, providing support to City and County shelter systems, and encouraging ongoing collaboration with local communities and other organizations.

About Jason Debus Heigl Foundation

The Jason Debus Heigl Foundation was founded by Nancy and Katherine Heigl to celebrate the memory of a wonderful son and brother. In 1986, Jason was killed in a car accident. He was fifteen years old. Throughout his brief lifetime Jason loved all animals, especially dogs, cats, and monkeys. He lived his life extending compassion and kindness to all creatures great and small. This foundation is his legacy. The mission of the JDHF is to eliminate the needless suffering inflicted on animals by human cruelty, indifference, and ignorance. Our primary focus is the greater Los Angeles area, for now.