

October 19, 2011

Statement issued from the City of Columbia / Richland County Animal Shelter

It has been brought to our attention that an organization has posted a story on a social media outlet regarding a nursing, mama dog that was euthanized in an area shelter. We have received many phone calls concerning this situation and would like to make it clear that this incident did not occur at the Columbia Animal Shelter where animals for the City of Columbia and Richland County are held.

This is a sad and unfortunate situation, ultimately caused by pet over-population. Pet over-population is the number one cause of animal cruelty and often places municipal and county facilities in the position of having to make difficult decisions every day because of over crowding in our local shelters.

This is a great example why spay/neuter is so important. Currently people are out numbered by pets seven to one. In order to end pet over-population today, every person would have to adopt seven pets.

That means if you are a family of five, your family now has 35 pets in its house hold.

As a citizen, you can help by doing two very important things.

Make sure your pet is spay/neutered and therefore not contributing to the problem.
Adopt a pet from your local shelter.

The Columbia Animal Shelter has a modern and inviting adoption center that has many adoptable animals that are available six days per week to the public. We are open from 8:30am - 5:00pm on Monday - Friday and 9am - 4pm on Saturday. All animals are already spay/neutered, micro-chipped, vaccinated, etc. - all by our full time veterinarian. We also offer free spay/neuter vouchers to those who may need assistance.

We can be reached at 803-776-PETS (7387) and we are located at 127 Humane Lane (off Shop Rd. and I-77). Just look for the "Adopt Us" sculpture.

Shelter animals make great pets and you can help by adopting one today.