

4th Quarter 2018

From Mayfield Graves Co Animal Shelter

**SHELTER HOURS**

The shelter has the following hours:



**T, W, Th, F 12:00-5:00**

**Saturday 12:00-4:00**

**Sunday and Monday Closed**



# Up-coming Events

Annual Board meeting on Jan 21 @ 7:00 City Hall Council Chambers.



LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT AT THE SHELTER. THIS TIME OF YEAR DOES NOT HAVE A LOT GOING ON BUT WE STAY BUSY TAKING CARE OF OUR FRIENDS. WE ARE VERY FULL. WE CAN ALWAYS USE DOG WALKERS IN THE AFTERNOON.

The shelter has been trying to help dogs that stay outside in every kind of weather. When we here about a dog that is chained up outside we do try to complete a wellness check that involves going to the home, looking at the situation and talking to the homeowners.

We have taken 3 dog igloo houses, blankets, straw and sometimes food to houses that have their dog in this kind of environment. We do not have any igloo houses left at the shelter.

We just did this for 2 dogs at a house in town. It was this past week so the ground was wet and there was no grass to be seen. They were both on a chain. What a life these babies must have. They now have a home they could get into during yesterday's snow storm and last nights bone chilling temperatures.

If you would like to donate an igloo house to the shelter that would be

wonderful. We will make sure it goes to a dog in need and there are plenty out there.



The kind that offers a little turn gives the dog more protection from the weather.

Help us protect our furry friends. They deserve so much more than living on a chain, in a muddy yard, cold and hungry.

# December's Featured Pets

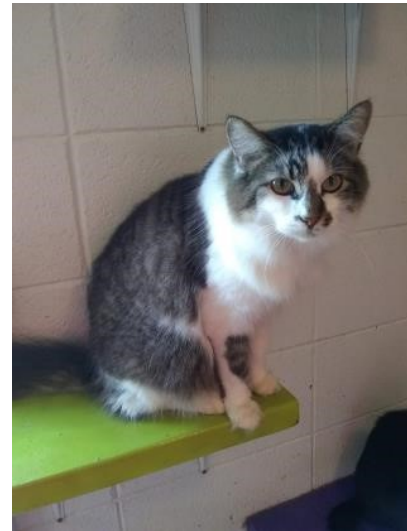
.Breed: Alaskan Husky / Mix **KUDO**  
Age: 5y 2m Gender: Male  
Color: Grey / White  
Spayed/Neutered: No  
Size: Extra-large

Kudo has an interesting story. He was surrendered to us as a wolf hybrid dog. After much research the shelter decided to have his DNA tested. Wolf hybrids are not allowed to be owned in many states, Kentucky included. We found that Kudo is an Alaskan Husky and Malamute mix. No wolf. He is gentle and gorgeous. Loves to be petted and loved on. He also loves the cold weather. Kudo will be going to a rescue but wanted our readers to see this beautiful canine with the long legs and sweet face.



## Meet ECHO

Pet ID: 38856116  
Breed: Domestic Longhair / Mix  
Age: 4y 7m Gender: Male  
Color: Brown / Black  
Spayed/Neutered: Yes  
Size: Medium  
Declawed: Yes



**NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE IN  
MARCH** ☀️

Information is Based on January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Since January 1 2018 the shelter has received **1839** animals.

In 2017 the shelter received **1740** animals.

In 2018 **1084** dogs have gone to various rescues, been adopted or been re-claimed by owners.




Issue 83

You can get your dog or cat microchipped at the shelter for a very reasonable cost.

Give us a call.

*Please don't breed or buy  
while shelter dogs die.*

**PLEASE be a responsible  
pet owner and SPAY/  
NEUTER your pet.**

**We STILL need help.** We need a couple of volunteers to take pictures of all our dogs and cats so we can get them on Petango and Petfinder. To say we are  busy is an understatement. Once we get the initial pictures taken it will be a matter of coming to the shelter maybe 1 time a week to do pictures of animals that have come in since the previous week. Pictures do not have to be professional quality. We need to get our animals on these 2 sites, in the newsletter and on the webpage so the public can see them. I say 2 volunteers so 1 can take the picture and 1 can help "pose" the animal. If anyone is willing to do this to help the shelter please call 270-251-0130. **PLEASE HELP!!!!**

*We talked to several customers in 2018 that got a "free" pet from facebook, an ad on the radio or in the paper or in Walmart's parking lot. They soon discovered that pet was not free at all. The 1st vet visit cost them over \$150 for vaccines, worming, nail trim, flea control, HW test. If HW is negative they should purchase monthly preventative. If positive, oh boy, it is really expensive. We have taken in some of these "free" pets because owners don't want to spend the money on them. Nothing worth having is ever free if you want to do what is right for it.*



# How Cold Is Too Cold for Your Dog?

By Jennifer Coates, DVM

We all know that exercise and the mental stimulation being outdoors play are key to keeping our dogs healthy and happy, but what should we do when it's cold outside? When do the risks of spending time in the cold outweigh the benefits of being outdoors? Let's take a look at the dangers associated with winter weather and how we can still safely enjoy the great outdoors with our dogs during wintertime.

## All Dogs Aren't Created Equal

Dogs are individuals. An outdoor temperature that feels downright balmy to one dog might send another in search of shelter. What are some of the variables that affect how dogs respond to the cold?

Coat type – Dogs with thick, double-layered coats tend to be the most cold-tolerant (think Siberian Huskies, Newfoundlands or Samoyeds). In most cases, these breeds have been developed in Northern climates and may also have other anatomical, physiological or behavioral attributes that allow them to thrive when it's frigid. On the other hand, dogs who have exceptionally thin coats (e.g., Greyhounds and Xoloitzcuintli) suffer the most in cold weather.

Coat color – On a clear day, black, brown, or other dark-coated dogs can absorb significant amounts of heat from sunlight, keeping them warmer in comparison to their light-coated brethren.

Size – Small dogs have a larger surface area to volume ratio. In other words, the smaller dogs are the more skin they have (in relation to their "insides") through which to lose heat. Therefore, small dogs get colder more readily than do large dogs ... all other things being equal.

Weight – Body fat is a good insulator. Thinner dogs tend to get colder quicker than do their heftier counterparts. That said, the health risks of being overweight far outweigh any benefits, so don't fatten up your dogs during the winter months in a misguided attempt to protect them from the cold.

Conditioning – We've all experienced this one. Fifty degrees feels quite chilly in October, but after a long, cold winter, a fifty degree day in April can make us break out the shorts and t-shirts. Dogs who are used to cold temperatures handle them much better than do pets who aren't.

Age and Health – The very young, the very old, and the sick are not as able to regulate their body temperatures in comparison to healthy dogs in the prime of their lives, and they therefore need greater protection from the cold.

## All Temperatures Aren't Created Equal

The temperature as it registers on a thermometer isn't the only environmental factor that affects how dogs feel the cold.

Wind chill – A brisk breeze can quickly cut through a dog's coat and greatly decreases its ability to insulate and protect against cold temperatures.

Dampness – Rain, wet snow, heavy fog, going for a swim ... any form of dampness that soaks through the fur can quickly chill a dog even if the air temperature is not all that cold.

Cloud cover – Cloudy days tend to feel colder than do sunny days since dogs can't soak up the sun and warm themselves.

Activity – If dogs are going to be very active while outside, they may generate enough extra body heat to keep them comfortable even if the temperature is quite low.

## Cold Temperature Guidelines for Dogs

In general, cold temperatures should not become a problem for most dogs until they fall below 45° F, at which point some cold-averse dogs might begin to feel uncomfortable. When temperatures fall below 32° F, owners of small breed dogs, dogs with thin coats, and/or very young, old or sick dogs should pay close attention to their pet's well-being. Once temperatures drop under 20° F, all owners need to be aware that their dogs could potentially develop cold-associated health problems like hypothermia and frostbite.

The best way to monitor dogs when it's cold is to keep a close eye on their behavior. If you notice your dog shivering, acting anxious, whining, slowing down, searching out warm locations or holding up one or more paws, it's time to head inside.