

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 29, 2020

RE: AWSOM updates COVID-19 status as Monroe County shifts to yellow phase

Stroudsburg, PA – The Animal Welfare Society of Monroe (AWSOM) Board of Directors announces the following operational changes in response to our county's revised COVID-19 reopening status.

As of Friday, May 29, 2020, Monroe County has shifted to the YELLOW phase of reopening. This phase requires Aggressive Mitigation, marked by continued restrictions for work and congregate settings and adherence to CDC and DOH guidelines for social distancing and cleaning.

As such the AWSOM Animal Shelter building will continue to be closed to the public at this time. This is to allow shelter staff to care for the needy animals in our care without fear of exposure. AWSOM's top priority is the health and well-being of our shelter animals and the people who care for them.

The public is welcome to visit shelter grounds to view animals in outdoor kennels, based on weather conditions, the health of the animal and the discretion of shelter staff. This change in status is for **VIEWING PURPOSES ONLY**: Meet and greets and adoptions are by appointment only, pending approval of a pre-adoption application. **All members of the public must wear a mask and be symptom-free to visit our outdoor facilities.**

>ADOPTION—Please visit www.AwsomAnimals.org for a complete and updated list of animals available for adoption and to download a pre-adoption application. Upon approval of your pre-adoption application a meet and greet will be scheduled.

>STRAY ANIMALS—First, post a found pet photo on your Facebook page and share with AWSOM on Facebook: A.W.S.O.M. We will then share with our local network of lost animal pages. Facebook is one of the most effective tools for returning lost animals safely. If owners are not quickly located please call the shelter at 570-421-DOGS (3647) to set up an appointment for microchip scanning and photos.

>SURRENDERS—Appointments are required for animal surrenders, based on available space. Please call the shelter at 570-421-DOGS (3647).

>WELLNESS CENTER—As per Pennsylvania state emergency rules governing veterinary facilities, the AWSOM Animal Wellness Center is still open to the public for appointments at this time. Those with a scheduled appointment are encouraged to confirm with the Wellness Center the day before. Upon arrival clients are directed to stay in their car and call the Wellness Center to announce their arrival at 570-424-1060. A staff member will meet you at your car and provide detailed instructions to maintain social distancing. We thank you in advance for your patience.

>DONATIONS—Donations are needed and are greatly appreciated at this challenging time. Most needed are Purina Cat Chow (dry) and canned cat and kitten food. Monetary donations are also accepted as adoptions and fundraising events are currently on hold. Secure giving is available through Paypal on our website: AwsomAnimals.org

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support.

The AWSOM Animal Shelter is located at 3129 Godfrey Ridge Drive in Stroudsburg, PA 18360.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 13, Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Visit our website at www.AwsomAnimals.org - Facebook: A.W.S.O.M.

Email: info@awsomanimals.org