



CITY OF HARRISONBURG
FIRE
DEPARTMENT

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Firefighters support Clear the Shelters event

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Harrisonburg Fire Department (HFD) firefighters are used to getting calls to rescue pets, but it's not often they get the chance to stop and play with them.

However, that all changed this week when they got some special cuddling time with cats and dogs from the Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA (RHSPCA). The two groups are working together in an effort to support the Clear the Shelters event – focused on finding homes for cats and dogs in need.

The event, to take place Saturday, Aug. 29, will lower all the adoption fees to just \$25.

“We are excited to partner with HFD on this and future events because we both are in the business of saving lives,” RHSPCA Executive Director Huck Nawaz said.

Now, HFD is looking forward to partnering with RHSCPA again – especially if it means more time playing with some of the cutest members of our community.

“Keeping pets safe is so important to us because we know they are members of a family,” HFD Chief Matthew Tobia said. “We are hoping that these pets will find homes in our community and welcome this partnership.”

For the Clear the Shelters event, potential adopters just need to make an appointment for that day to meet the animals. Appointments are one hour in length and are limited to two people when inside the building.

- Dog Appointments: <https://signup.com/go/OfcSdmR>
- Cat Appointments: <https://signup.com/go/nrZpyzG>

For more information on the event or questions about adoptions please contact RHSPCA at (540) 434-5270.



(Top) HFD Chief Matthew Tobia and good pup Havana hang out before the Clear the Shelters event on Saturday. (Bottom) Capt. Ben Zimmerman snuggles with sweet new friend Urie, who is looking for a new home.

The Harrisonburg Fire Department is an ISO-Class II All-Hazards agency providing essential emergency and non-emergency life safety services to the public who live, work and travel in Harrisonburg. More information about the Fire Department is available on-line at www.harrisonburgva.gov/fire or on Facebook®, Twitter® and Instagram®.

The Rockingham Harrisonburg SPCA is proud to have served the County of Rockingham and the City of Harrisonburg for nearly 50 years. The mission of the Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA is to create a community free of pet homelessness and animal suffering. We bring our mission to life through shelter and adoption of animals, reducing pet overpopulation, and providing resources to improve the lives of animals and their people. We continue to implement a lifesaving model for our community and increase the live release rate for the animals that come into our care. Visit www.rhspca.org to learn more.

