



## **Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter**

2200 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

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Amber Rowland, General Manager

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**Amber Rowland, 831-359-2807**

### **Clear the Shelters (and the Shop)!! Reduced and free adoptions, and deals on treasures at the Benefit Shop**

The **Santa Cruz County Animal Shelters** (in Santa Cruz and Watsonville) took in more homeless pets this year than they have since 2013, and they need our community's help to reduce current over-crowding and find loving homes for as many pets as possible. To encourage adoptions, the shelter is celebrating Clear the Shelters Month, with deeply reduced adoption fees Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The adoption fee for dogs over 6 months old will be just \$75, and cats, kittens and rabbits will be only \$50, with littermates and bonded pairs 2 for the price of 1. As always, the adoption fee includes vaccinations, spay or neuter surgery, and a microchip to help protect the pet and get families off on the right paw for a long, healthy life together.

“We took in 312 more pets just during June and July than we did last year, including SO MANY beautiful kittens, and honestly, our staff, volunteers, and fosters are worn out,” said Amber Rowland, General Manager. “It’s been harder for people to get pets spayed or neutered since the pandemic, and that means more pets are ending up at the shelter. We want to get rid of as many barriers as we can to help these wonderful animals find the loving homes they deserve!”

To help lower barriers even further, the **Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter Foundation** is pitching in to make August 24<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup> “THRIFTY THURSDAYS.”

“On those two days,” said Sally Wing, SCCAS Foundation President, “the Foundation will pay the adoption fee for all spayed or neutered cats, kittens and rabbits, making those pets FREE for well-matched adopters! The Foundation exists to support the shelter and allow them to go the extra mile for animals. Sometimes that’s helping with special medical needs, sometimes that’s raising money for major projects or shelter improvements, and sometimes that’s supporting efforts like this – just getting people *in the door* so they can discover the wonderful pets waiting to share their love and their lives.”

Also on Thursdays, the **Santa Cruz County Benefit Shop** opens its doors each week. The Shop is a second-hand store at 870 17<sup>th</sup> Ave, filled with gently used treasures, vintage items, jewelry, and even pet supplies. All proceeds support the Animal Shelter. The Shop is open 11:00 to 5:00 Thursday through Saturday, and, due to a change in their lease, they’re having a massive

inventory-reduction sale! Even if you can't adopt right now, you can shop, save, and support the Shelter!

The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter (1001 Rodriguez Ave, Santa Cruz 95062) is open from 11:00 to 6:00 every day and has hundreds of adoptable pets to choose from. The Watsonville shelter (580 Airport Blvd in Watsonville) has a smaller number of adoptable pets on-site, but they're just as wonderful! The Watsonville location is open for adoptions 1:00 – 5:00 Tuesday through Saturday. To view available pets, visit [www.scanimalshelter.org](http://www.scanimalshelter.org)

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### **About Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter (SCCAS)**

The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter is an open admission shelter which welcomes EVERY animal in need. Our goal is to be a humane resource for the community by providing a safety net and second chance for local animals. There are two locations where owners can find and recover lost pets, adopt new animal companions, or find out about resources. Visit [www.scanimalshelter.org](http://www.scanimalshelter.org).

The support of our community is crucial to sustaining and expanding these services.