We are an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes.

A history of caring on Cape Cod
Since 1921, ARL has responded to the needs of the Cape Cod community. The first animal shelter was built in 1953 on Snail Road in Provincetown, thanks to the bequest of a generous donor. In 1967, ARL moved to its current larger location at 3981 Main Street in Brewster to accommodate even more animals in need.

In 2009, ARL took its spay/neuter services on the road via its mobile surgical unit, The Spay Waggin', to service animals and their families across Cape Cod and the South Shore.

Today, ARL helps nearly 18,000 animals annually throughout Massachusetts thanks solely to generous individuals who support our many programs and services, which include:

ANIMAL ADOPTION
Animals make their way into the Brewster Animal Care & Adoption Center from a variety of living situations and conditions, such as a found stray, owner surrender, or confiscation from a law enforcement case. ARL adopts out thousands of animals to loving families each year.

SHELTER VETERINARY MEDICINE
Every animal receives a medical evaluation from one of our highly-qualified, caring shelter veterinarian. Spay/neuter services, vaccinations, and preventatives are also provided. Staff and volunteers continuously train and work to expand skills to meet the needs of a diverse range of species including dogs, cats, rabbits, small animal, bird, and livestock.

BEHAVIOR & ENRICHMENT
While most shelters put an emphasis on physical care, ARL knows that an animal’s mental and emotional well-being is equally as important. ARL's unique Shelter Behavior and Enrichment program not only makes animals happy and comfortable while they’re in the shelter, but also prepare them for life in their future home.
PET SURRENDER
Life events, medical issues and housing circumstances can make caring for an animal difficult, which is why ARL will work with families to make the right decision for them and their pet.

PET AFTER-LIFE CARE
ARL offers a variety of after-life care options for this sensitive and important time in the life of a beloved family pet.

A COMMUNITY RESOURCE
ARL’s important work extends well beyond our shelter walls. ARL meets people and animals where they live, and brings veterinary and wellness services directly to those who need it most, so that animals are safe and healthy living in communities and out of shelters.

Affordable Spay & Neuter Services
The Spay Waggin’, ARL’s mobile surgical unit, provides high-quality, affordable spay/neuter services to animals in need on Cape Cod and the South Shore.

Anti-Cruelty Law Enforcement Investigation
ARL is a leader in animal safety by keeping animals in homes and out of shelters, and by eliminating the conditions that lead to neglect and abuse. ARL’s shelter and stable act as safe-havens for animals that have been confiscated due to abuse and neglect situations throughout Massachusetts.

50,000 spays & neuters have been performed on ARL’s Spay Waggin’ since its inception.

17,884 animals served in 2016.

Contact Us
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