

**ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON**



A champion for animals

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For Release on:

May 2, 2022

ARL Joins MAF for Special Spay/Neuter Clinic in Fall River

22 Animals to receive vital surgery

On Monday, May 2, the Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Spay Waggin' will once again be in Fall River to spay/neuter nearly two dozen animals as part of an ongoing collaborative effort with ARL, the Massachusetts Animal Fund (MAF), and Fall River Animal Control.

Media Availability

When: Monday, May 2 @ 9:00 a.m.

Where: Fall River Fire Museum, 1181 N. Main St., Fall River, MA

For four years, ARL has hosted the clinic in collaboration with MAF and Fall River Animal Control. The surgeries are under the MAF voucher program, which distributes vouchers to qualifying low-income pet owners to cover the cost of the important procedure.

Due to high demand and Covid-19-restrictions, many clients have been on a waiting list for a number of months to have their pets spayed or neutered, and ARL is pleased to once again be providing this vital service that's greatly needed in the Fall River Community.

"Fall River is already a struggling community, but since the pandemic, it seems as if getting spay/neuter services has proven to be even more difficult," said Cynthia Berard-Cadima, Fall River Animal Control Officer. "People contact us daily, asking for funds. Many are out of work

and our homeless community is growing. We are stretching every dime and our veterinarians are donating time and services more than ever.”

Clients will begin arriving with their animals around 8:30 a.m. and will be picking up their animals in the afternoon following surgery and recovery time.

Clinics like this that provide subsidized spay and neuter services are at the core of MAF, which is primarily funded by the voluntary tax check off (Line 33f) on the Massachusetts resident income tax form. The Massachusetts House of Representatives recently approved a budget amendment to provide MAF with \$75,000 in funding, which will soon be debated in the Senate. Since 2014, the MAF voucher program has helped provide spay and neuter services for more than 16,000 animals, and without this allocated funding, the need will remain great, but MAF will not be able to assist as many pet owners in need.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2021, ARL served over 23,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

The Mass Animal Fund’s Voucher Program was created as a mechanism to provide assistance to Massachusetts’ most vulnerable companion animals. The Voucher Program is dedicated to bringing resources to homeless animals and animals owned by low-income Massachusetts residents through a collaborative network of animal control officers, and veterinary providers. Since inception in 2014, the Mass Animal Fund has spent over \$2 million dollars to sterilize and vaccinate over 16,000 animals across the Commonwealth. The Fund’s Voucher Program is made possible through donations collected on line 33f of the Massachusetts Resident Income Tax Form. www.mass.gov/animalfund **Invest in the responsible care of animals. File taxes, help animals #line33f.**

