

# Operation S.P.O.T. (Stop Pet Overpopulation Today)

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## **Mission Statement:**

The Mission of Operation SPOT is to eliminate the unnecessary euthanasia of dogs and cats in St. Louis and surrounding areas.

## **Means of Carrying Out This Mission:**

- Facilitating low-cost spaying and neutering by area veterinarians
- Advising on public policies about spaying, neutering and other aspects of responsible dog and cat care
- Informing the public about the basic components of responsible dog and cat care—
  - Spay or neuter
  - Keep cats indoors, and humanely confine dogs outdoors under supervision or indoors
  - Obtain vaccinations, licenses and microchips for all dogs and cats—apply visible identification tags
  - Make advance arrangements for pet care in case of a personal emergency (such as hospitalization)

## **Activity:**

- Low-cost spaying and neutering: "TenSPOT Fix " Program—frequency, and target species and sex, depends upon available funding. Moderate-cost spaying and neutering: "909-VETS" Program (314-909-8387)—a telephone referral service. Continuing preparation for the "Save-A-Cat" Program
- Advisory: City of St. Louis Animal Regulation Center, testimony before the Creve Coeur City Council and St. Louis County Council, Jefferson County Council, and meeting with representatives of the Missouri Department of Agriculture, and providing data and testimony about breed specific legislation at various community meetings
- Public information is disseminated through two public forums per year, Hope for the Animals Day, distribution of literature, and web site documents

## **Membership:**

There are three membership categories—individual, organizational, and business. Membership is subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Additional information might be requested prior to approval. The membership year is January through December. Organizational members must be either an animal welfare organization registered as a 501(C) in Missouri, OR a local municipal or county government agency (or department) that is tasked with animal care and control functions. Businesses that participate in, or advocate, the breeding of dogs and cats—or that participate in, or advocate, practices that involve animal cruelty, cannot be accepted for membership. In addition to the three membership categories, OpSPOT may bestow Honorary Life Membership on an individual who has greatly advanced our mission.

## **Structure:**

Operation SPOT is governed by a Board of Directors. The Executive Director is responsible for day-to-day operations.

## **Meetings:**

The Board of Directors meets in January, April, July and October. January is the Annual Meeting.

## **Disclosure:**

Operation SPOT is registered as a 501(C)3 organization in Missouri. Operation SPOT does not receive income from federal, state or local taxes—or from such charities as United Way. Income is received from donations, grants and other fundraising activities. Financial records are reviewed at least annually by a Certified Public Accountant. Information about Operation SPOT is submitted to: GuideStar.org, the Missouri Secretary of State's Office, and the Missouri Attorney General's Office and charity website—for registration and for inclusion on the charity website. Copies of the Operation SPOT's Annual Report may be obtained by sending a written request to the address above.

*Operation SPOT does not discriminate in regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, age or sexual orientation.*

1/09 update