

HUMANE SOCIETY

OF WEST MICHIGAN



P.E.T.S. Network Guidelines

Humane Society of West Michigan (HSWM) takes pride in the ability to assist our community in keeping families together through times of hardship. At HSWM, we recognize that individuals of all walks of life may find themselves making life changing decisions on their pet's behalf while seeking a stable home environment. Whether it is a house fire, natural disaster, eviction, or domestic violence, we strive to be a network of resources for our pet community in *providing emergency temporary shelter* (P.E.T.S.). Below is important information regarding P.E.T.S. Network:

General P.E.T.S. Network Information:

- HSWM will provide daily food, water, socialization, exercise, and basic preventive medical care for approved animal(s) needing temporary boarding for up to 30 days.
- All animals who are admitted into the program are placed in one of our experienced and approved foster homes, kennel in-shelter, and/or boarded at a partnering facility.
- The P.E.T.S. Network is for pet families that have exhausted all other pathways and need one time assistance with an expected date of animal(s) redemption.
- Once accepted into P.E.T.S. Network, HSWM assumes temporary physical custody of the animal(s) with the intention of owner redemption.
- We highly encourage that all required medical costs are paid by the owner when the animal(s) are redeemed at HSWM, but we will work through financial constraints on an individual basis.
- If an owner is unable to find new accommodations after a month has elapsed, HSWM reserves the right to approve or deny an extension.

Program Guidelines:

- This program is for one-time use. Applicants who have utilized the service in the past will not be eligible to enroll again. (Unless approved by the Director of Community Programs)
- HSWM clients are required to communicate their housing status to our Director of Community Programs weekly. Clients who fail to complete two consecutive weekly check-ins may forfeit their right to utilize the program.
- All animals admitted into the program are required to have an examination by a HSWM licensed veterinarian, up to date vaccinations, spay/ neuter surgery, microchip, and a negative heartworm test within the last year. (HSWM will provide all necessary vaccines as needed) Animal(s) must be in good health and behaviorally sound upon admission.
- Animal(s) who are housed in this program are not available for visitation.
- Program space is limited. Clients are served on a first-come, first serve basis.

Program Requirements:

- Completed Request for Service Form
- Completed Network Agreement and Medical Authorization
- Referral for an service agency
- Proof of animal ownership and Michigan residency

Additional Considerations:

Humane Society of West Michigan provides the best possible care for each animal during their sheltering period. However, potential clients should note that there are inherent risks in boarding any animal. These risks include, changes in the animal's behavior, changes in weight, and/or contraction of a contagious illness. In the event that an animal's health or behavior suddenly declines, HSWM may request that an animal be removed from P.E.T.S. Network at any time.