



THE SCOOP



Staff Contact: (714) 754-5128
 Animal Control: (714) 754-5674
 Animal Licensing: (714) 754-5300



www.costamesaca.gov/pets
www.pricelesspetrescue.org
www.newportcenterah.com



Morticia - Photos Courtesy of Priceless Pet Rescue

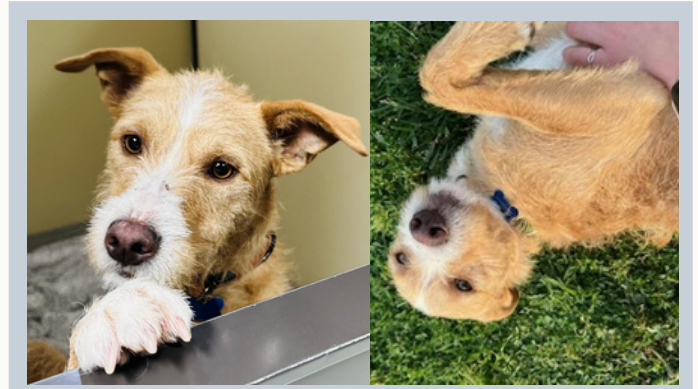
CAT OF THE MONTH

Hello, my name is Morticia!

I am a two-year-old, female, Domestic Short Hair cat. I had a litter of kittens while in the shelter and am now ready to be pampered by my forever family.

I am known to be a sweet cat and cannot wait to purr and cuddle with my new family.

Morticia is currently located at The Orphanage - Costa Mesa (1536 Newport Blvd.) with her other feline friends, so stop by and say hi! To view more adoptable pets, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org.



Ike - Photos Courtesy of Priceless Pet Rescue

DOG OF THE MONTH

Hello, my name is Ike!

I am a one-year-old, male, terrier who is looking forward to meeting my forever family! I am known to be a little shy, but with time will surely warm up to you!

I am learning a lot at the adoption center, such as walking on a leash! I have much love to give and cannot wait to meet you!

Ike is currently located at The Orphanage - Costa Mesa (1536 Newport Blvd.). To view more information on Ike and other adoptable pets waiting for a new home, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org.

ADOPTION HIGHLIGHT



After six-months, Kona, finds a home!

Kona arrived to the contracted Costa Mesa animal shelter as a stray and was transferred to Priceless Pet Rescue for adoption in October 2023.

Kona was lucky to have a great foster family to take care of him while awaiting adoption. Kona was known by his foster family as calm, gentle and loving. Kona loves to cuddle and is surely loving on his new family!

Kona was adopted by his forever family in April 2023!



ANIMAL SERVICES OPERATIONS

**Priceless
Pets**
A no-kill pet rescue



Duncan - Costa Mesa Location
Domestic Short Hair
2 years old
Male



Chi - Costa Mesa Location
Pug
10 years old
Male

Check out these pets that are currently waiting for their forever family at www.pricelesspetrescue.org.



Newport Center
**ANIMAL HOSPITAL
& PET HOTEL SUITES**

Lost Animals

If you have lost a pet, we highly recommend pet owners to review the following steps:

1. Contact shelter services at the Newport Center Animal Hospital and place a lost pet report. You can also leave a poster or photo of your lost pet. (Original photos cannot always be returned). Do not depend solely on tags and microchips.
2. View the City of Costa Mesa's Impounded Animals webpage at www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals.
3. Found pets by Animal Control Officers, stray dogs, or pets released by owners are taken to Newport Center Animal Hospital.
4. If a dog is found wearing a current Costa Mesa License, or identification tag, attempts will be made to contact the owner by phone and mail.

If you find a lost pet in Costa Mesa, be sure to call Animal Control immediately at (714) 754-5674.

CATS REACT TO 'BABY TALK' FROM THEIR OWNERS, BUT NOT STRANGERS

WILLIAM SULLIVAN - SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE

New research provides evidence cats see their person as “more than just a food provider”

Using “baby talk” could effectively grab your cat's attention, a small study finds. But this bond appears unique to owners: When strangers addressed the cats, even high-pitched cooing wasn't enough to pique the animals' interest.

The new paper, published Tuesday in [Animal Cognition](#), is “an indication that cats really can distinguish that the sound they're hearing is relevant to them,” [Marsha Reijgwart](#), who studies animal behavior at the Netherlands-based educational research facility Purr Doctors and did not contribute to the study, tells [National Geographic's](#) Carrie Arnold.

“What we found is that cats can discriminate between speech that is specifically addressed just to them by their owner from their speech addressed to other humans,” [Charlotte de Mouzon](#), the paper's first author and an ethologist (animal behavior researcher) at Paris Nanterre University in France, tells [Gizmodo's](#) Ed Cara.

Previous research has shown that dogs pay more attention when we speak to them in the way we talk to human babies—with high-pitched voices, extended vowels and short phrases, writes [Science's](#) David Grimm. But there's been less research on how cats respond to this pet-directed speech. [Jennifer Vonk](#), a comparative psychologist at Oakland University who didn't contribute to the study, tells [National Geographic](#) that experiments with cats are harder, because they aren't easily trained and often get scared in new environments. They're also perceived as being less social than dogs, Vonk says to the publication.

In the new study, de Mouzon and her colleagues worked with 16 cats aged between 8 months and 2 years old that belonged to students at the National Veterinary School in Alfort, France, according to [New Scientist's](#) Christa Lesté-Lasserre.

The researchers recorded the owners speaking phrases such as, “Do you want to play?” and “Do you want a treat?” both in pet-directed speech and as they would speak to other adults.

They also had 16 women unknown to the cats record the same phrases.

The cats were then played the recordings in their own homes with their owner present but not interacting with them, according to [New Scientist](#). In one experiment, the researchers played five recordings for each cat. The first three recordings and the last recording were of the owner using adult-directed speech, while the fourth was of the owner's pet-directed speech. The researchers graded the intensity of the cats' reactions—including dilated pupils, turning their ears, pausing activity or moving toward the voice—on a scale from zero to 20.

On average, the cats' responsiveness decreased as each of the first three recordings played, but their attention rebounded significantly with the pet-directed speech, per [Science](#). It dropped again when the final recording of adult-directed speech played.

When the team repeated the experiment with the voice of a stranger, the cats again became gradually less attentive—but they remained disinterested when the pet-directed speech played, according to [Science](#).

The cats' lack of response to “baby talk” from strangers could be because all the cats were indoor pets and therefore didn't have many opportunities to interact with new people, de Mouzon says to [New Scientist](#).

“It's a fascinating study,” [Kristyn Vitale](#), an ethologist studying cat cognition at Unity College who did not contribute to the paper, tells [Science](#). “It further supports the idea that our cats are always listening to us.”

[Esther Bouma](#), who studies cat behavior with Reijgwart at Purr Doctors and was not involved with the new research, notes to [National Geographic](#) that the small size of the study and the similarities between the cats and owners make it hard to generalize the findings to all relationships between cats and humans.

But de Mouzon tells [New Scientist](#) that the results are further evidence that cats are “sensitive and communicative individuals.”

“The fact that they show a special reaction to a special way we talk to them means, I think, that we are something more just than a food provider in their world,” she tells [Gizmodo](#).



COSTA MESA BARK PARK

890 Arlington Drive | Costa Mesa | (714) 754-5041

The Bark Park (890 Arlington Dr.)

The Bark Park is be open Thursday - Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. The park is closed on Wednesdays for regular maintenance.

For park updates during inclement weather, please call the Costa Mesa Mudline at (714) 754-5041.

ANIMAL CONTROL



Costa Mesa | (714) 754-5674



Spring Pet Safety Tips

Toxic Plants



Lilies and other seasonal plants can be toxic to pets. Be mindful when choosing plants for your garden and your home.

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center Phone Number: (888) 426-4435

Cleaning Products



With spring cleaning, comes cleaning products and potentially poisonous chemicals to your pets. Keep cleaning products out of reach and secure at all times.

Grooming



Keep your pets cleaned and groomed to prevent skin irritations from allergies, fleas and ticks. Maintaining your pet groomed also helps regulate their temperature.

Seasonal Pests



Reach out to your pets veterinarian about prevention against fleas, ticks, mosquitos, and parasite protection.

Chocolate



Chocolates are one of the most well know toxins to pets. Chocolate contains Theobromine which can affect the Nervous & Cardiovascular Systems, be sure to keep all candy out of reach from your pets.

Identification



Don't forget to get your pets License and Microchipped! If your pet is Microchipped, make sure the information is up to date. Collar ID tags should also be worn for quicker identification.



MONTHLY STATISTICS

Animal Care Services provides monthly statistics to track the animals entering the shelter, returning to their owners, transferring into the adoption center, and adoptions.

MARCH/APRIL 2023

(03/01/23 - 04/30/23)

- Total impounds to shelter: 100
- Animals returned to owners: 23
- Animals transferred to adoption care: 73
- Total adoptions: 48

For more detailed statistics, please visit:
www.costamesaca.gov/pets

COSTA MESA MUDLINE

For all field, barkpark, and skatepark closures due to rain, call:

(714) 754-5041



Love Your Dog, Love Your Park

TAKE THE LEAD...

Parke Make Life Better!

& SCOOP THE POOP!

MAY 8 IS NATIONAL ANIMAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS DAY

ASPCA

Help protect pets by spreading the word about disaster preparedness. Emergencies come in many forms, and they may require anything from a brief absence from your home to permanent evacuation. Each type of disaster requires different measures to keep your pets safe, so the best thing you can do for yourself and your pets is to be prepared. Here are simple steps you can follow now to make sure you're ready before the next disaster strikes:

Step 1: Get a Rescue Alert Sticker

This easy-to-use sticker will let people know that pets are inside your home. Make sure it is visible to rescue workers (we recommend placing it on or near your front door), and that it includes the types and number of pets in your home as well as the name and number of your veterinarian. If you must evacuate with your pets, and if time allows, write "EVACUATED" across the stickers

Step 2: Arrange a Safe Haven

Arrange a safe haven for your pets in the event of evacuation. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND. Remember, if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pets. They may become trapped or escape and be exposed to numerous life-threatening hazards. Note that not all shelters accept pets, so it is imperative that you have determined where you will bring your pets ahead of time:

- Contact your veterinarian for a list of preferred boarding kennels and facilities.
- Ask your local animal shelter if they provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets.
- Identify hotels or motels outside of your immediate area that accept pets.
- Ask friends and relatives outside your immediate area if they would be willing to take in your pet.

Step 3: Choose "Designated Caregivers"

This step will take considerable time and thought. When choosing a temporary caregiver, consider someone who lives close to your residence. He or she should be someone who is generally home during the day while you are at work or has easy access to your home. A set of keys should be given to this trusted individual. This may work well with neighbors who have pets of their own—you may even swap responsibilities, depending upon who has accessibility.

When selecting a permanent caregiver, you'll need to consider other criteria. This is a person to whom you are entrusting the care of your pet in the event that something should happen to you. When selecting this "foster parent," consider people who have met your pet and have successfully cared for animals in the past. Be sure to discuss your expectations at length with a permanent caregiver, so he or she understands the responsibility of caring for your pet.



Step 4: Prepare Emergency Supplies and Traveling Kits

If you must evacuate your home in a crisis, plan for the worst-case scenario. Even if you think you may be gone for only a day, assume that you may not be allowed to return for several weeks. When recommendations for evacuation have been announced, follow the instructions of local and state officials. To minimize evacuation time, take these simple steps:

- Make sure all pets wear collars and tags with up-to-date identification information. Your pet's ID tag should contain his name, telephone number and any urgent medical needs. Be sure to also write your pet's name, your name and contact information on your pet's carrier.
- The ASPCA recommends microchipping your pet as a more permanent form of identification. A microchip is implanted under the skin in the animal's shoulder area, and can be read by a scanner at most animal shelters.
- Always bring pets indoors at the first sign or warning of a storm or disaster. Pets can become disoriented and wander away from home in a crisis.
- Store an emergency kit and leashes as close to an exit as possible. Make sure that everyone in the family knows where it is, and that it clearly labeled and easy to carry. Items to consider keeping in or near your "Evac-Pack" include:
 - Pet first-aid kit and guide book (ask your vet what to include)
 - 3-7 days' worth of canned (pop-top) or dry food (be sure to rotate every two months)
 - Disposable litter trays (aluminum roasting pans are perfect)
 - Litter or paper toweling
 - Extra collar or harness as well as an extra leash
 - Photocopies and/or USB of medical records and a waterproof container with a two-week supply of any medicine your pet requires.
 - At least seven days' worth of bottled water for each person and pet (store in a cool, dry place and replace every two months)
 - A traveling bag, crate or sturdy carrier, ideally one for each pet
 - Flashlight
 - Blanket
 - Recent photos of your pets (in case you are separated and need to make "Lost" posters)
 - Especially for cats: Pillowcase, toys, scoop-able litter
 - Especially for dogs: Extra leash, toys and chew toys, a week's worth of cage liner

You should also have an emergency kit for the human members of the family. Items to include: Batteries, duct tape, flashlight, radio, multi-tool, tarp, rope, permanent marker, spray paint, baby wipes, protective clothing and footwear, extra cash, rescue whistle, important phone numbers, extra medication and copies of medical and insurance information.

RESOURCES

Animal Care Services

(714) 754-5128

(714) 754-4918

Costa Mesa Animal Control

(714) 754-5674

Newport Center Animal Hospital (Shelter)

1333 Avocado, NB

(949) 447-5959

Hours: 10am - 4pm; Mon-Fri

10am - 3pm; Sat

Impounded Animals

www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals

Adoptable Animals

www.costamesaca.gov/adoptableanimals

LOOKING TO DONATE?

Donating to assist in the well-being and care of Costa Mesa's sheltered and adoptable animals is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Donate your time by becoming a volunteer or foster caretaker with Priceless Pet Rescue. Visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org for more information on how to volunteer.
2. Purchase pet supplies through Priceless Pet Rescue's Chewy.com wish list or donate directly to their organization. For more information, please visit www.pricelesspetrescue.org/donate.
3. Make a monetary donation to the Costa Mesa Foundation for Animal Care Services at City Hall, Balearic Community Center, or Downtown Recreation Center.

COYOTE SAFETY

Tips to keep coyotes away:

- Do not leave small pets in the backyard unattended
- Feed your pets indoors and do not leave pet food outside
- Pick up fallen fruit from trees off of the ground
- Protect all water sources including pools

If you spot a coyote:

- Haze the coyote by making yourself big and loud
- Log onto the Coyote Cacher to report your encounter
- www.costamesaca.gov/coyotecacher
- Email coyote@costamesaca.gov



Visit www.costamesaca.gov for more information.