



## Resources and Assistance For Families Escaping Domestic Violence

- To find a domestic violence shelter that has resources for pets visit [SafePlaceforPets.org](http://SafePlaceforPets.org)
- RedRover Relief offers financial assistance, resources and support to survivors of domestic violence and their pets, so families can escape together and stay together. Financial assistance is offered for families needing emergency boarding for pets and emergency veterinary medical care. Visit <https://redrover.org/relief/>
- For low cost spay/neuter, vaccines, or free dog food visit Cumberland County Unchain at <http://www.unchaincc.com/>
- Fayetteville Care Center provides 24/7 crisis assistance, safe housing, advocacy, counseling, and legal information. Call 910.677.2532
- For help filing a protective order contact Legal Aid of North Carolina. Call 910.488.0400
- To report acts of animal cruelty contact Cumberland County Animal Control. Call 910.321.6852
- For immediate after-hours veterinary medical emergencies contact Animal Urgent Care. Call 910.864.2844
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1.800.799.7233



## Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse

*71% of pet-owning domestic violence victims report their abuser threatened or harmed a family pet (Ascione, 1998).*

Abusers often target pets as a way to control and maintain fear as well as to punish or manipulate victims. Animal abuse can range from threats to harm a pet to physically abusing or killing the pet. Victims often stay in abusive situations out of fear of leaving their pet behind. North Carolina offers resources to aid victims and their pets in leaving dangerous situations.

# Frequently Asked Questions

*What do I do if there are no pet friendly shelters in my area?*

If you are unable to find a pet friendly shelter in your area, you can reach out to close friends or family who may be able to temporarily watch your pet.

*Where do I file for a protective order?*

Visit the Safelink Office located in Room 340 in the Cumberland County Courthouse to file in person, or visit The Rape Crisis Center at 519 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301 to file electronically.

*What if my partner hasn't threatened to abuse my pet?*

Just because your partner hasn't threatened to harm a pet doesn't mean he or she won't. Domestic violence and animal abuse often occur simultaneously.



## Safe Planning For Pets

Things to keep when moving a pet to safety

- Pet's vaccine and medical records
- Identification tag with a phone number (of a trusted friend or veterinarian), but not your home address
- Medical records or pet license in your name
- Rabies tag
- Any medications for your pet
- Bowls, leashes, collar, favorite toy, bedding, grooming supplies
- A photo and an information sheet on food and feeding schedules, medical conditions, and medication schedule
- Pet carriers, if available

## Including Pets in a Domestic Violence Protective Order

In Cumberland County, NC, individuals that are granted a 50B Order of Protection can include their pets in the relief section. §50B-3. Relief states that If the court, including magistrates as authorized under G.S. 50B-2(c1), finds that an act of domestic violence has occurred, the court shall grant a protective order restraining the defendant from further acts of domestic violence. A protective order may include relief to provide for possession of personal property of the parties, including the care, custody, and control of any animal owned, possessed, kept, or held as a pet by either party or minor child residing in the household.