

# Frequently Asked Questions

## General Questions

### **What are the benefits of donating my car to San Antonio Humane Society?**

The Humane Society benefits by receiving a cash donation to fund new and existing programs and increase community awareness through local events.

You benefit by being able to reduce your taxable income when taxes are itemized. Plus you avoid the costs associated with selling your car. No need to pay for advertising, no loss of privacy and possible security risk, and no need to pay for vehicle registration, insurance, and repairs to keep your car in running condition while you wait for a buyer.

### **Does my car have to be running to donate it?**

In some cases we can take your car, running or not. However, it must have an engine and be towable. Contact a representative at 877-525-PETS to find out if your vehicle qualifies for pick-up.

### **Do you only accept cars for donation?**

Many types of motor vehicles are accepted including boats, motorcycles, trucks, and cars. If you are uncertain as to whether or not your vehicle is eligible, please contact the vehicle donation program toll free at 877-525-PETS.

### **How long will it take to pick up my vehicle?**

We make donating your car as simple and convenient as possible. A tow company will contact you within two to three business days. Call our representatives at 877-525-PETS.

### **Do I have to be with the vehicle at the time of pick-up?**

No. Special arrangements can be made by calling our representative.

### **What paperwork do I need?**

The only paperwork needed is a signed, clear title. **Have your title with you when you call-in your donation.** [Please note: a clear title indicates the title is in the name of the donor without a lien].

### **Do I need a smog certificate in order to donate my car?**

For states that require smog certificates or safety inspections, you may donate your vehicle without these documents.

### **What type of receipt will I receive for my vehicle when it is picked up?**

When your vehicle is picked up, the tow truck driver will give you a document called a "towing receipt." The towing receipt is a legal document and should be kept. Do not

allow your vehicle to be picked up unless you are given a towing receipt. If you have any questions about this please call our toll-free number, 877-525-PETS.

**What if I receive legal notices?**

In the rare event that you receive any notification of a lien sale, DMV actions or other activity related to your donated vehicle, please contact us at 877-525-PETS immediately for assistance.

## **Tax Questions**

**How does the new law effect my tax deduction?**

Donors are no longer responsible for determining the deductible value of their donation. Instead, they will receive IRS Form 1098-C, Contributions of Motor Vehicles, Boats, and Airplanes if the proceeds from the sale exceed \$500, stating the amount of the gross proceeds from the sale of the donated vehicle. The amount listed on IRS Form 1098-C, Contributions of Motor Vehicles, Boats, and Airplanes will be the gross proceeds of the deductible donation.

**Will I get a tax receipt for my donation?**

Yes, our driver will issue a receipt at the time of pick-up. This is not your final tax receipt unless the sale of your vehicle does not exceed \$500. This initial acknowledgement will indicate your name as well as the year, make, model and condition of the car you are donating. It will be your only receipt if your vehicle sells for less than \$500.

**What can I claim as a deduction?**

According to the tax law effective January 1, 2005, if the claimed value of the donated vehicle exceeds \$500, the taxpayer is limited to the gross proceeds of the sale.

An IRS Form 1098-C, Contributions of Motor Vehicles, Boats, and Airplanes will be mailed to you within 30 days of the sale stating the amount of gross proceeds received from your car, provided your vehicle sold for more than \$500. This will be your tax receipt for your charitable contribution.

**How is the value determined on the vehicle donated?**

The value is determined by the gross proceeds raised from the sale of the donated vehicle. You no longer have the burden of determining the value yourself.

**Does the new law affect the San Antonio Humane Society?**

The Humane Society has additional paperwork in reporting the gross proceeds raised from the sale of the vehicle to the donor and IRS. The process of obtaining the cash donation from the vehicle remains the same.

**What if my car is valued over \$5000?**

Effective January 1, 2005, you are no longer required to have vehicles appraised. The value you may claim will be the amount of gross proceeds received from your vehicle.