



January 29, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Seamus R. Nelson
210-226-7461 ext. 125

Cat Owners should “Beat the Heat” Before Spring with the San Antonio Humane Society’s Spay/Neuter Promotion

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (January 29, 2013) – Warmer weather may still be months away, but the San Antonio Humane Society wants you to “beat the heat” by spaying your cat in advance of her heat cycle and preventing unwanted litters from being born this Spring.

Animal shelters commonly refer to spring time as “kitten season” because that is when they receive the largest influx numbers of unwanted litters that are difficult to adopt.

To help reduce the number of homeless cats born this spring, the San Antonio Humane Society is offering a special “Beat the Heat” promotion sponsored by [PetSmart Charities®](#). During the month of February, the San Antonio Humane Society will spay female cats and administer a rabies shot for a special rate of \$20.

Spaying and neutering is one of the most effective ways to reduce the homeless pet population. While some worry that their pet may be too young for this procedure, spaying and neutering is safe for kittens as young as 8 to 10 weeks old, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Spaying a female cat before the first heat cycle is actually beneficial, rather than waiting until after one heat cycle has occurred. The procedure is known to improve the health of the pet, including a reduced risk of certain reproductive cancers and infections.

“Female cats can have as many as three litters a year, and kittens can breed as young as four months old,” says Dr. Courtney Bridgeman, Chief Veterinarian for the San Antonio Humane Society. “Most people don’t want to see their cat get pregnant over and over again, so hopefully our ‘Beat the Heat’ campaign will serve as a gentle reminder to cat owners to sterilize their cats before they go into heat and become pregnant this year.”

Thanks to the PetSmart Charities grant, the San Antonio Humane Society will provide ## cat sterilizations and rabies shots for \$20 during February. This special rate is available on a first come first serve basis. *Cat parents who wish to take advantage of this offer must mention the “Beat the Heat” promotion when they schedule their appointment.* Please visit [SAhumane.org](#) for more info or call 210-424-7595 to schedule an appointment.

About The San Antonio Humane Society

The San Antonio Humane Society is a non-profit, no-kill organization that has served Bexar County and its surrounding areas since 1952. We are not affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States or the ASPCA. Every year, the San Antonio Humane Society shelters, medically treats, and rehabilitates more than 5,000 animals that have been injured, abused, or abandoned until they are ready for adoption. Through our adoption, volunteer, foster care, and educational programs we educate the public on the importance of responsible pet ownership, micro-chipping and spaying/neutering. Visit SAhumane.org for more info.

About PetSmart Charities

Established in 1994, PetSmart Charities, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that creates and supports programs that save the lives of homeless pets, raise awareness of companion animal welfare issues and promote healthy relationships between people and pets. The largest funder of animal-welfare efforts in North America, PetSmart Charities has provided more than \$165 million in grants and programs benefiting animal-welfare organizations and has helped save the lives of more than 5 million pets through its in-store adoption program. To learn more about how PetSmart Charities is working toward its vision of a lifelong, loving home for every pet, visit petsmartcharities.org or call 1-800-423-PETS (7387).

###