

# Town of Brookhaven Hosts Free Rabies Clinic on June 4

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**Farmingville, NY** - On Saturday, June 4, the Brookhaven Animal Shelter & Adoption Center will hold its annual Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Brookhaven Town Hall.

"I urge residents to protect their pet, their family, and their community by coming down to Town Hall on June 4 with you cat, dog, or ferret for a free rabies vaccination. I once again commend the leadership of Dori Scofield for introducing another creative program to care for our furry residents," said Supervisor Mark Lesko, "I encourage all of our residents to visit the Animal Shelter and adopt a loving companion."

"I hope many residents will come down to Town Hall on June 4 and take advantage of free rabies vaccines. I thank Dori Scofield and the Brookhaven Animal Shelter once again for providing a free service to residents that will improve the health and safety of their pets," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner, liaison to the Animal Shelter.

"This is one of several opportunities I am happy to offer to the public as part of our ongoing campaign to protect and improve the lives of Brookhaven's companion animals," said Dori Scofield, Animal Shelter Director.

The Free Rabies Clinic is taking from between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in the parking lot of Brookhaven Town Hall, located at 1 Independence Hill in Farmingville. The Brookhaven Animal Shelter is organizing this event with the support of the Suffolk County Health Department.

**There is a limited quantity of 1,000 free rabies vaccinations and they will be given on a first come, first serve basis.**

In order for pets to receive the vaccination, dogs must be on a leash and cats or ferrets must be in pet carriers.

Residents can also take advantage of affordable veterinary care at this event. The Animal Shelter will be offering low-cost booster shots and micro-chipping of pets. Payment can only be made in cash.

The Free Rabies Clinic is another example of the Brookhaven Animal Shelter and Adoption Center's efforts to improve the health and safety of the animal population in the Town of Brookhaven, increase adoptions, and pet retention. The Animal Shelter recently launched the Brookhaven Bully Alliance (BBA), which encourages other animal rescues to adopt Pit Bulls from the Brookhaven animal shelter and find loving homes for them. Every shelter dog that enters the BBA program is professionally evaluated, spayed or neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. \$250 goes to each participating organization for the care of the animal. Another program, "Spay it Forward", offers incentives to get animals spayed and neutered. This new program is presently concentrating on the ever-growing Pit Bull population in our Township. For every Pit Bull that a resident gets spayed or neutered, the owner will receive a voucher to help another needy Pit Bull to receive the same services. 95% of the approximately 200 dogs at the Animal Shelter are Pit Bulls or Pit Mixes.

The Town does not use taxpayer dollars to fund "Spay it Forward" or the Brookhaven Bully Alliance- the funds to pay participating organizations are provided by the Help the Animals Fund. The Help the Animals Fund is currently accepting donations and will be sponsoring various fundraising events to support this program and others. Residents who would like to sponsor one of the shelter's Pit Bulls can donate by visiting [www.brookhaven.org/animalshelter](http://www.brookhaven.org/animalshelter) and clicking the Help the Animals Fund link.

If you are interested in adopting a furry friend, visit the Animal Shelter at 300 Horseblock Road in Brookhaven, NY and from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Some of the pets available for adoption include:



*DARYL: Daryl is a middle-aged boy who has been at the shelter longer than the Animal Shelter Director, who started in July 2010.*

*He is gentle, loving, and walks well on his leash. He is a Pit Mix and wants to be a loyal companion in a real home.*



*ANITA: Anita is the longest resident at the shelter and has been there since 2008. Her nickname at the shelter is "Sweet Anita"*

*- she is adorable, adoptable, and deserves a life of love. Come down to the shelter and meet her.*

**Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

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