



Re-gifting made easy: Donate those unwanted holiday gifts — and other treasures — to Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit

- Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit announces its first Spring Auction for the Animals*
- FAMD seeks gift items from the holidays and other treasures you no longer want or need in new and unopened packages*
- 100 items to be featured in March 19-29 online auction*
- Proceeds from the auction will raise much-needed funds to help feed FAMD animals waiting for their forever homes, as well as provide them medical services and loving care*

DEARBORN, January 14, 2021 -- What to do with unused holiday gifts is a common problem. More than \$115 billion worth of gifts purchased this holiday season are expected to be returned, according to NBC News.

Instead of returning or relocating those unwanted gifts to the basement, Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit (FAMD) offers a new option: Donate those unneeded presents and help the shelter assemble a stellar lineup of items for its first-ever Spring Auction for the Animals.

FAMD is seeking new and unused items such as electronics, sporting goods, jewelry, tools and kitchen equipment, in their original factory packaging. Some slightly used items in perfect original condition will also be considered. Items will be accepted now through March 15.

The 10-day online auction is scheduled to run March 19-29. It will be modeled after the popular auction held each fall for FAMD's Black Tie & Tails gala. Each year, more than \$40,000 in sports tickets, tours, luxury vacations, dinners, artwork, custom-made jewelry and other upscale items are sold at Black Tie & Tails, FAMD's premier fundraising event.

Proceeds from the Spring Auction for the Animals will help pay for the care of the more than 2,500 animals who arrive each year at the shelter. And the timing is crucial. Spring is traditionally known as kitten season, with hundreds of abandoned or lost kittens arriving at the shelter.

"With the Spring Auction for the Animals, everyone wins," says Kim Cross, FAMD president and CEO. "A donation to the auction solves the awkward situation of what to do with a gift that just

doesn't work out. There's no dealing with the hassles of shipping the item to Amazon or elsewhere and waiting for credit. Most importantly, the animals benefit."

To donate an unused holiday gift to the Spring Auction for the Animals, you may drop the item off at FAMD's Animal Services and Administration offices, 2661 Greenfield Road, Dearborn, Mich., 48120.

After the auction, winning bidders can pick up their items at the center or they can elect to have their purchases shipped for a charge.

"FAMD has not been immune to the effects of COVID-19, and donations and adoptions are significantly down from last year," says FAMD board chair MaryAnn Wright. "Animals are also staying at FAMD longer due to the backlog in getting them sterilized. The Spring Auction for the Animals is a great way for people to make a donation and help our animals until we find their forever homes."

About Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit

After more than 28 years of nurturing over 59,000 animals, Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit has embarked on the second phase of their "More Love Than Humanly Possible" capital campaign to construct Phase Two of their complex, an addition to the MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption & Education Center. For more information about FAMD, a 501(c)3 organization, visit metrodetroitanimals.org.

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