

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT ANNOUNCES  
SECOND ANNUAL “PAWCHELLA” TWO-DAY FESTIVAL**

**Dearborn, MI.** April 3, 2025 – Friends for Animals announces its second annual two-day animal festival, PAWCHELLA, presented by Village Ford, Saturday, June 7 – Sunday, June 8, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the organization’s MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption and Education Center, located at 16121 Reckinger Road, Dearborn, MI 48126. This weekend-long fundraiser promises to be even bigger, and more engaging than last year’s event.

The festival celebrates the joy of animals, community, and second chances. Hosted at the newly expanded MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption & Education Center, the pledge-driven, fun-filled PAWCHELLA weekend is one of the many amazing ways Friends for Animals raises critical funds to help them care for the nearly 2,500 animals that come through the Dearborn shelter’s doors each year.

This year’s event marks a new era for Friends for Animals—with more activities, and a chance to explore the organization’s fully finished facility.

In celebration of the seventh anniversary of the MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption and Education Center, PAWCHELLA will kick off Saturday, June 7 with a dog pack walk at 9 a.m. to raise awareness and fundraise.



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metrodetroitanimals.org

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Saturday's bands include Sunglasses After Dark, HotRod D-Luxx, Urban Muse Band, and Martinez. Stick around for a fundraising corn hole tournament from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. with 50% of the proceeds going back to Friends for Animals, tarot readings, and face painting. Both days will feature vendors, food, a bar, and a daily 50/50 raffle drawing. The Friends will also host an adopt-a-thon on both days, where rescues, foster-based rescues, shelters and other animal welfare organizations will come together to promote the mission behind the programming: Successfully uniting homeless pets with their new homes.

Sunday, June 8 will commence with yoga in the dog park with instructor Lily Trombly of Plymouth Yoga Room at 9 a.m. Plan for a tin can raffle, Magic with a Twist, and three more bands: Primary Soul, The Rockin' Boomers, and ConnQuest.

New this year are a dog dock diving exhibition, a fly ball exhibition, lure and agility courses for your own pup, and a passport for participants to collect stamps at four carnival games and "Find Fido" scavenger hunt stops to be entered for a chance to win prizes.

Enter the PAWCHELLA cash raffle for \$5 per ticket, sponsored by Premier Pet Supply, with six chances to win either a \$500 Premier Pet Supply gift card or the grand prize of \$2,500 cash! Drawing will be held at 2 p.m. June 8.

Make a bigger impact, leading up to the event, by setting up a fundraising page, and helping Friends for Animals reach their goal of raising \$100,000 to continue caring for homeless animals. Supporters can register as an individual or grab some friends and join as a team for free. Once you have registered and created your personalized fundraising page, Friends for Animals encourages participants to share it with friends, family, and co-workers to help spread the love even further.

To register, fundraise or learn more, visit <https://www.metrodetroitanimals.org/event/pawchella-2025/>



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Basic Entry to the event without fundraising or receiving anything in return is \$5 per person, per day. Dogs and kids under 12 are free.

There are three tiers of fundraising and/or admission: (Participants and attendees can fundraise in advance OR purchase upon entry, gaining access to both days of the event and varying swag):

- \$10- Pet Waste Bag Dispenser with logo
- \$20- Tote with logo
- \$30- Official 2025 T-shirt
- \$50- All three (Bundle)

The top team and top individual will be recognized on Sunday, June 8.

For more information, to speak with someone about sponsorship opportunities, or to be one of our exhibitors, contact Nova Zorok, events and communications manager, at [nzorok@MetroDetroitAnimals.org](mailto:nzorok@MetroDetroitAnimals.org) or [313.943.2697 ext. 1019](tel:313.943.2697).

Proceeds from this event will go toward Friends for Animals' General Operations Fund, dedicated to providing our animals with the best medical care, food and love possible until their time of adoption.

Friends for Animals is a 501c3 organization and is located at 16121 Reckinger in Dearborn. Friends for Animals is dedicated to the rescue, protection, and adoption of companion animals in need, while inspiring the human-animal bond. Friends for Animals was founded in 1993 by volunteers who believed that homeless animals in our region deserve a second chance at life. Building on our strong sense of animal welfare, Friends for Animals has grown in the past 32 years to an organization of great impact in the companion animal welfare community. The organization helps find homes for approximately 2,500 dogs and cats each year.



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**Friends for Animals Media Contact: Nova Zorok, 313.520.7188, 313.943.2697 ext. 1019**

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