

New Jersey Animal Shelter Seeks Volunteers, Cat Adopters

Local business owners plan a Save a Pet Day event for June 10.

Springtime has resulted in an overflow of animals at the Old Bridge Animal Shelter in Old Bridge, N.J. The shelter currently has about 90 animals in its care 80 of them cats and kittens, according to animal control officer Sonja Gundersen, who runs the shelter. At present, some of the kittens are too small to be adopted; by state mandate, a kitten must be at least 8 weeks old to be adopted, but Gundersen pushes that number to 9 weeks for her shelter animals, she said, because at 9 weeks, kittens are due their first set of shots. Merchants in the Ticetown Shopping Plaza are also helping out by hosting Save a Pet Day to raise both money and awareness for the shelter. For two weeks prior to the event, the stores will feature poster-size photos of the animals residing at the shelter. During the Save a Pet Day event, which is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 10, many of the stores will give away free samples and prizes. There will also be a Name the Kittens competition for gift certificates. Gundersen is expected to bring some of the shelter animals to the event to see if anyone is interested in adopting, and several of the Ticetown business owners said they will donate \$100 each to the animal shelter in honor of Save a Pet Day. Those interested in adopting can visit the shelter Monday through Friday between 10 am and noon or 2 pm to 3 pm. It is also open from 11 am to 2 pm weekends. Shelter animals are also listed on the facility's website, www.oldbridgeanimalshelter.petfinder.com. Posted: May 29, 2006, 5:00 a.m. EST