

How Does the New Dog and Cat Sterilization Program Work?

- It is funded by tag sales, the income tax check off, private donations, and grants.
- Educational materials promote the program and spay/neuter as a healthy choice.

In 2013 the Grant Program was established. Grants are as funds are available and are offered to County and municipal shelters and non-profit tax exempt organizations that hold an animal shelter license. In our initial round of Grants \$125,000 was awarded to a total of 19 applicants. In 2015 \$200,000 in grants were distributed.

Contributions to the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program (DCSP) can be sent to:

DCSP

**19 MLK Jr. Dr., Room 122
Atlanta GA 30334**

Who Supports the Program?

- Ass'n. of County Commissioners of GA
- Georgia Animal Control Association
- Georgia Canine Coalition
- Georgia Department of Agriculture
- Georgia Emergency Management Agency
- Georgia Municipal Association
- Georgia Pet Industry Association
- Georgia Sheriffs' Association
- Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
- Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia

Please contact us for more information:

Georgia Department of Agriculture
Dog and Cat Sterilization Program
19 MLK Jr. Dr., Room 122
Atlanta GA 30334
404-656-4914 <http://agr.georgia.gov>

This brochure is available in pdf format on our website to print and pass along to media, local officials, veterinary clinics, pet stores, friends and neighbors.

Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
www.GVMA.net
678-309-9800

5/10/16



**Three Plates,
One Purpose,**

How Can I Help?

- Buy a Dog & Cat Sterilization License Plate
- Make a tax-deductible contribution
- Ask your employer to match your contribution
- Help educate others about sterilization
- Honor/remember someone with a contribution
- Urge your veterinarian to participate
-

Donate with the State Income Tax Check off:
Dog & Cat Sterilization Fund

Program Accountability

- Money from the sale of tags (\$10), income tax check off, donations go directly to the program
- **Over one hundred thousand** spay/neuter procedures throughout Georgia. People and animals in all **159** Georgia counties have benefited from the program.

Why is a Sterilization Program important?

Dog and cat overpopulation is a tragic problem in all areas of Georgia. Each year thousands of healthy, friendly dogs and cats are euthanized in Georgia's animal shelters because people have allowed them to stray and breed. **There are not enough homes for these excess animals.** Sterilization is the solution to dog and cat overpopulation. It reduces:

- Number of stray dogs and cats
- Dogs and cats housed and killed in shelters
- City/county tax burden for animal control
- Destruction to property and livestock
- Health risks and bad behavior
- Vehicular accidents
- Wildlife and habitat destruction
- spread of disease like rabies
- injuries to people and other animals

Dog and Cat Sterilization

Program:



**Three Plates,
One Purpose,
Saving Lives!**

Program Fast Facts

No tax money goes to the program. Purchasing the special license plate is **voluntary**. \$10 from each tag sale and renewal goes directly into the program. **All donations are 100% tax-deductible.**

The State of Georgia annually collects at least **\$60 million** in sales tax on the sale of dog and cat food, yet spends less the **\$1 million** on Animal protection.

62 of Georgia's **159** counties do not have animal control. Most Have Minimal animal control.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Can I purchase a dog and cat sterilization license plate at any time during the year?

A: Yes, plates may be purchased **at any time**, by surrendering your current plate to your county tag office. There is \$25 Manufacturing Fee and a \$35 Special Tag Fee. Your county tag office can answer any questions you may have concerning purchase of these tags.

Q: May I buy the plate online?

A: Yes, for more information on online renewal, go to the Department of Revue website: <https://mvd.dor.ga.gov/tags/index.aspx>

Q: May rescue groups use the funds?

A: Absolutely, we encourage them to use it, to enable them to do more.

Q: I make a good living and do not qualify for any entitlement programs. Can I still use the program?

A: Yes, any resident of Georgia can use the program. We hope this will encourage citizens to help friends and family and do rescue work.