

# M-SNAP

Mountaineer Spay Neuter Assistance Program



**M-SNAP** was created specifically to reduce the indiscriminate breeding/euthanasia cycle that is responsible for thousands of puppies, dogs, kittens, and cats being destroyed in Monongalia County each year. In 2009, 1,349 animals died at the Monongalia County Canine Adoption Center (MCCAC), just because there were not enough homes for them all.

Our primary goal is to fund a Voucher Program that assists needy pet owners and caregivers and pays for the surgery to steril-

ize their pets. Our secondary goal is to educate the community about the benefits of spay/neuter — not only to the animals, but also to the pet owners and their community.

The taxpayers in Monongalia County and City of Morgantown contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars every year for animal control. MCCAC became a mandatory spay/neuter facility in 2005, but without an aggressive spay/neuter program operating in tandem, pet overpopulation and its ugly conse-

quences have become more prevalent.

M-SNAP was formed in early 2008, and we became a federal tax-exempt non-profit in March 2009. We are an all volunteer organization governed by our mission statement and by-laws.

We are registered to operate in the State of West Virginia.

All M-SNAP financial records and official documents are available on our web site at [www.m-snap.org](http://www.m-snap.org).

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## 684 ANIMALS "FIXED" IN 2009



**414 Cat Spays**

**185 Cat Neuters**

**162 Dog Spays**

**33 Dog Neuters**

We can't end pet overpopulation with shelters and adoptions alone - unwanted pets are being born faster than the lucky ones can find homes. Instead, we must prevent the birth of EVERY animal that has absolutely no hope of finding a forever home.

## FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Last year was the first year that M-SNAP was in full operation, and 2009 was a truly amazing year for Fund Raising.

We began the year by reviewing our efforts from the previous year. The projects we chose to repeat included ticket sales for the Players Cup Golf Tournament held at the Pete Dye Golf Course in Clarksburg, several yard sales culminating in a final garage sale at the Community Church on the Grafton Road, consignments at Mother's Attic, M-SNAP Mousies sold at the local vet clinics, Enjoy Entertainment Coupon Books and T-Shirt sales, and crafts sold during Mountaineer Week.

Two members took our donation jars to another level, creating special displays and coordinating placement and collection. Their efforts netted an incredible \$1,894.43 in 2009.

New ideas were tried, too. They included e-commerce with Amazon.com, the concession stand at Krepps Park Little League and the Grafton Road Farmers Market, Rocklith pet blankets, Mingle with the Stars to meet and greet some of WVU's star basketball players, a "Tri to Make a Difference" spaghetti dinner and silent auction in conjunction with the Spirit of Morgantown's Triathlon, a benefit golf tournament held at the Meadow Ponds Golf Course. Our grand finish was in November, with the amazing,

arfsome Woofstock, where 230 pets and their owners spent a fun-filled day at Mylan Park with M-SNAP members and friends.

Suzanne Gainer, Chair



## ACTION COMMITTEE

The Action Committee is responsible for managing the Voucher Program. These volunteers issued 794 vouchers in 2009, and each voucher represents a phone interview with a pet owner.

Important information is collected throughout the Voucher Program process and entered into our computer database. Sta-

tistics are a major part of effectively managing this program, requesting grants, and being accountable. For instance, we know that 71% of the animals we fixed in 2009 were strays—animals that, at some point, probably belonged to someone else. We know how many surgeries each clinic performed. We know that 87% of our vouchers

were redeemed and that 77% of our total expenditures was in support of our Voucher Program.

We are doing what we promised—fixing Monongalia County, one pet at a time. 2009 was an amazing year and we celebrate our success with every voucher that is mailed.

Teddi Lester, Chair

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



Our membership fee remained at \$10 per person, but the membership committee recommended that the effective dates be changed from a fiscal to a calendar year. This resulted in a reduction in membership revenue during this transition year.

The membership fee is not tax exempt, because each membership represents a vote in all M-SNAP membership business.

In 2009, M-SNAP had 24 new members and 59 carry-over members for a total of 82 in 2009.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Spay Day USA in February and the Candlelight Vigil for Homeless Animals in August were the year's high points, but Community Outreach (CO) also participated in many other events and activities.

For Spay Day USA, CO got spay/neuter messages printed in the broadside that every Mon. County Public School employee gets with his or her paycheck, as well as in the newsletter that is sent to every student. Most of the schools in the county also displayed a pet overpopulation/spay-neuter poster provided by us, and many principals made a Spay Day USA announcement based on text we sent them.



For the Candlelight Vigil, CO arranged an impressive lineup of speakers as well as live music. The Vigil, held in the Morgantown Courthouse Plaza, was well-attended for a first outing, and vigil received

recognition in the International Society of Animal Rights' newsletter.

CO also had a major presence at Morgantown's Kid's Day in July, with several games and activities, some of which were developed for that venue and served M-SNAP in good stead at other events where children attended, like Woofstock.

We were re-invited to WVU's Panel on Community Wellness, participated in the freshmen English classes and the Council for Civic Engagement's "Fair" on Honor's Day, and the WVU Homecoming Parade.

CO's main event at year-end was a presentation to the entire 6th grade population of South Middle School, kicking off a unit on responsible pet ownership.

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We also began an M-SNAP "Fan Club" on Facebook, to augment our Group page.

CO designed our first web page, where we can promote M-SNAP, advertise our events, and provide public outreach. Our "Friends of M-SNAP" contact list grew from about 20 to over 100 names.



Of course, various posters, press releases, and other publicity and informational material were created and made available other committee events and activities.

Our name recognition increased in 2009. Time after time, community members supported our efforts with materials, price breaks, services, media coverage, and great ideas.

In short, it appears Community Outreach worked in both directions! We are very thankful for all the support and hope to continue to deserve it by promoting and educating people to the importance of spay/neuter as THE alternative to euthanasia.

Carolyn Grinberg, Chair

## VETERINARY CLINICS

M-SNAP is very proud to be working with the doctors and staff at the clinics listed here. Each clinic performed spay/neuter surgeries and administered rabies shots authorized and funded through our Voucher Program.

In 2009, these eight vet clinics fixed 684 animals with M-SNAPS vouchers and their own resources.

- **Morgantown Veterinary Care**
- **Paw Prints Veterinary Clinic**
- **Hillcrest Veterinary Clinic**
- **Middletown Animal Clinic**
- **Animal Medical Center**
- **Dr. Charles Hyde**
- **Cheat Lake Animal Hospital**
- **Brookvalley Veterinary Clinic**



**PO Box 4335**  
**Morgantown, WV 26504**  
**Phone: 304-985-0123**  
**Web Site: www.m-snap.org**

Spay/Neuter is the first step to a no-kill community

**2009 Board of Directors**

- Cindy Cramer
- Pat Frisby
- Suzanne Gainer
- Teddi Lester
- Nancy Young
- Carolyn Grinberg
- Susie Marks Watt

M-SNAP is made up of a diverse group of people, with even more diverse talents and interests. But the one issue that unites us all is pet overpopulation in Monongalia County.

A shameful number of dogs, cats, puppies and kittens are dying every year, either humanely at the pound or by disease, neglect, or injury, a direct result of pet overpopulation.

As disturbing as the problem is, it can be easily solved if each of us takes just one small step—not allowing our animals to breed indiscriminately.

**Nancy Young, Chair**



**FINANCIAL REPORT**

According to every non-profit resources, charities follow a similar growth pattern that includes learning, adjusting, and redefining themselves as they grow.

M-SNAP is no exception. Our first year was used to develop the Voucher Program. Our second year was used to figure out how we were going to pay for that program.

Last year could be described as the year of volunteer overload. However, through all of the hard work and sacrifices, we learned that if we preserve the passion and avoid volunteer burn-out, no project is too big.

We have constantly adjusted - incorporating the things that worked and eliminating the things that didn't.

We have also redefined M-SNAP as an organization that needs to provide more volunteer opportunities and a more stable source of income.

We were very successful in 2009. We contributed to the local economy by funding 684 spay/neuter surgeries and reduced the likelihood of thousands of new homeless dogs and cats. We educated pet owners—from early childhood to senior citizens. And, we have even bigger plans for 2010.

<b>2009</b>	
<i>REVENUE</i>	
Memberships	\$240
Donations	\$34,524
Fund Raising	\$31,940
Grants	\$14,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 81,209</b>
<i>EXPENDITURES</i>	
Operating Expenses	\$2,250
Veterinary Fees	\$49,435
Fund Raising	\$12,787
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 63,985</b>