

Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue, Inc.

Safe Haven Scoop

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Questions about care?

Do you have questions about caring for your rabbit? Zoom call help available for nail trims, grooming, litter-box training, bonding, etc.

Please contact us via our [Contact form](#) if you have care question (*no medical questions, we are not vets*).

No charge.



Donate



By Karen Augustynowicz, Director

A Time for Thanks.....

Fall is always one of my favorite seasons. I love the colorful scenery. This drought, though, has brought an extra eye of caution on the danger. I'm keeping my bird water station out as long as possible to help not only the birds, but the deer, squirrels, and chipmunks who also are daily visitors. We worry about those in harm's way and pray for rain.



I also love Thanksgiving. Not so much for all the food, but more for the thoughts promoted by the holiday. And so, in this newsletter, we wanted to be sure to convey our thoughts of how thankful we are for the generosity shown by our donors and volunteers. And to convey the wish that your support will continue going forward.

With various medical needs, veterinary bills are our biggest expense. So, our Holiday Wish is for your continued donations! *We just cannot do it without you.*

And, of course, we wanted to wish you a

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

Enjoy the Newsletter!

Wishing you, your family and bunnies a Blessed Holiday Season.

With sincere thanks,

Karen Augustynowicz, Director
Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue, Inc.



Our Fall Virtual Fundraiser - The 2024 Goat Games Sept 5th—Sept 28th



Thank you So Much to all our Volunter Fundraisers & Donors!

The Goat Games is a virtual fundraising competition hosted by Catskill Animal Sanctuary that allows anyone from anywhere to support rescued animals of all species, and to raise much-needed funds for the sanctuary of their choice!

The Goat Games are designed to inspire friendly competition, raise critical support, and instill hope in people who want to change the world for animals by providing them with a tangible way to help animals in need. The proceeds support the life-saving mission of each participating animal sanctuary.

The 2024 Goat Games were structured as a bracket-style competition, which is a format commonly used in tournaments where participants compete in rounds until a final winner was determined.

It started with 16 Sanctuary Teams

Round 1 - Sept 5-7: The bunnies **won their match!**

And moved on to the Championship Round

Round 2 - Championship Round - Sept 12-Sept 14

Safe Haven did not win this match
but moved to the Second Chance Group

Second Chance Round 2-Sept 19-Sept 21

The bunnies won this match and advanced into the Finals!

**Final Rounds - Top 2 of the Championship Group and
Top 2 of the Second Chance Group - Sept 26 - Sept 28**

**Catskill Animal Sanctuary won the Championship Group
And
Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue won the Second Chance Group!**

All the bunnies and volunteers thank each and every one of you who supported our team during this year's Goat Games!!

We can't Thank you enough for being there for the bunnies!
It was very different this year but with a little determination and help from you all "The Bunnies Did Great!"



Did You Know....

By Linda Torlay, Safe Haven Educator



Did You Know one of the most recognizable animated rabbits in the world is Bugs Bunny. Bugs Bunny made his cartoon debut in 1940 in 'A Wild Hare' by Tex Avery. Originally created by Bob 'Bugs' Hardaway the character was further developed by Tex Avery, Chuck Jones, Friz Freleng, Bob Clampett, and Bob McKimson but Chuck Jones is the main mastermind to the beloved rabbit's evolution over the years.

In the character's very early years he was known as 'Happy Rabbit' and appeared in Warner cartoons starting in 1938.

Mel Blanc was the voice behind Bugs Bunny from 1938 – 1989. After Blanc's passing several others throughout the years voiced the character.

Bugs Bunny has appeared in television commercials, and both comic books and strips, and the films 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit' (1988) and 'Space Jam' (1996). Bugs Bunny even has his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame what he received in 1985 and he appeared on a U.S. postage stamp in 1997. Bugs Bunny was even a pitchman for the products Nike and Kool-Aid.

Bugs Bunny's catch phrase is 'What's Up, Doc?' and he is unable to resist carrots and often depicted eating one.

Honey Bunny was Bugs Bunny's first girlfriend first appearing in comics and then in the cartoons. When the movie Space Jam was created Lola Bunny (pictured) appeared and became Bugs Bunny's girlfriend.

Daffy Duck is Bugs Bunny's best friend even though Daffy shares a love/hate relationship with the iconic rabbit and Elmer J. Fudd alongside Yosemite Sam are his archenemies.



Did You Know Bugs Bunny changed the meaning of the word 'nimrod'. Today the word is known as a foolish or inept person, an idiot, a moron. A 'nimrod' was what Bugs Bunny called Elmer Fudd. The original definition of Nimrod is that it is the name of the great grandson of the biblical figure Noah (who built the arc) and he was known as a 'mighty hunter'. When Bugs Bunny referred to Elmer as a 'nimrod' he was being sarcastic.

Educational Corner

by Linda Torlay, Safe Haven Educator



P is for pee (urine) and in this article I will talk about the basics of what is normal and what is not.

Bunny pee varies in color from a pale yellow to a brown rusty red and hues in between. As long as it is watery and not thickened, it more than likely is normal.

Hematuria is the technical term when blood is present in the urine and the color of a bunny's urine will then be more of a bright vivid red than that of a brown rusty colored red. If you suspect blood in your bunny's urine your bunny should be seen immediately by a veterinarian. Blood that is present in urine is not normal and is a sign that something needs medical attention. Some causes for blood in a bunny's urine can be stones or sludge in the urinary tract, an infection, or cancer.

A dry chalky white deposit in the bottom of a litterbox or other surface is excess calcium that a bunny will rid itself of thru their urine. Excess calcium will also make watery urine appear cloudy. This too is normal as long as the urine is not thick.

Like that of any mammal, bunny urine does have an odor and the strength of that odor varies from bunny to bunny. Unneutered and unspayed bunnies tend to have stronger smelling urine than those that have been neutered and spayed. Controlling odor is easy by keeping an appropriately sized litterbox clean with daily changes and rinsing in white vinegar regularly and when residue is present.

Under no circumstances should products be used to cover up odor as those are harmful to bunnies. The only item safe to use is an air purifier that uses a HEPA filter.

Elderly or handicapped bunnies that are not able to use a litterbox well may urinate outside the box or on themselves and thus require your help to keep their area and themselves clean. As noted above clean = no or very little odor.

If you do suspect abnormal urine, and need to collect a sample for your veterinarian for testing, the likely way to do this is to start with a clean and dry litterbox and put a grate of some sort in the box so urine is able to flow thru. The grate needs to be clean and sturdy enough to support your bunny's weight and the spacing small enough so little feet do not slip thru. An ideal grate is a rack used to cool baked goods. Put some large leafed greens or a bowl of pellets in a corner to encourage your rabbit to get in the box then wait for the magic to happen. This requires patience and diligence on your part. After your bunny urinates remove the food and transfer the urine to its transport container.

Educational Corner (continued)

by Linda Torlay, Safe Haven Educator



If you are unable to successfully obtain a urine sample at home, a rabbit savvy veterinarian, trained to express a bladder, can obtain a sample that way.



(Image of various shades of bunny urine from www.longislandrabbitrescue.org/rabbit-urine)

Fur, fur everywhere....

by Karen Augustynowicz, Safe Haven Director

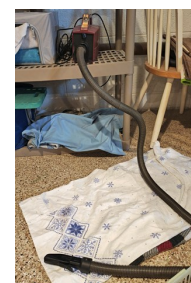
Did you think rabbits didn't shed during the cold weather? Well, of course they do! Rabbits shed all the time. Many rabbits shed 3 to 4 times a year with duration lasting several weeks; others shed constantly throughout the year seeming to be in a perpetual molt. And when they are shedding, most do need your help to keep it under control. Brushing will help reduce the amount of fur they will ingest.

There are many tools out there and you may have to experiment to find ones that work best for your rabbit's coat. Long hair, wooly breeds and Rex rabbits will require different tools. Ayden volunteered to show what works best for him. He is a 11.5 pound, Silver Fox mix who doesn't mind grooming as long as it includes lots of pets.



1. A cat/kitten shedding tool—Use first to loosen fur
2. Fur-Be-Gone brush—Use mostly all over. Fur sticks to rubber easily. Original hard to find. Similar versions available.
3. [Hairbuster](#) Cat Comb—use sparingly and very gently. Works well, but can pull if not used lightly. Original only.
4. Plastic long tooth brush helps with mats.
5. Flea comb also good for picking apart mats.
6. Cat nail clippers. For cutting nails.

Be sure your rabbit is comfortable. You kneeling on the floor with them on a towel or pillow case works well. Be ready for lots of fur. If you have a small vacuum with an extra long hose, that will be a bonus and the best for picking up all the fur as you go along. Most do fine with the noise.



Luke
Adopted—Sept. 9, 2024

One of the perils of fostering is the way these bunnies tend to worm their way into our hearts and homes. We don't see that as a bad thing though! It is actually comforting—and totally understandable. Congratulations to our most recent happy foster home adoption!

You may remember Luke as one of the stow-away babies who were rescued with their pregnant momma back in June of 2022. Well, Congratulations are in order for Luke and his foster Mom, Zoe Merz! Luke needed a little extra attention, and Zoe stepped up to foster him. With the extra time and attention, Luke's personality blossomed, and soon Zoe and boyfriend Connor knew they had to make him their own forever bun. We were, of course, thrilled to have such a positive outcome. Here's wishing you all the very best!!



Our **Private Adoption Program** was put into place years ago to provide owners who needed to rehome their rabbits a safe platform to do so. Any rabbits found, adopted through, or listed as a 'private adoption' are the sole responsibility of the current owner and/or the adopting party. They are not Safe Haven foster rabbits. We only offer this program as there are more rabbits needing re-homing than area rescues can accommodate. That need is currently at an all time high.

With our help, fourteen rabbits have been adopted through that program just this year. It gives owners another option and we are glad to be able to help them this way.

So, if you are looking to adopt, please remember to check out our listings under the [Privately Owned](#) Adoptables tab as well!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Our bunnies would love for you to play Santa and send some items their way for the holidays.

Holiday Wish List for rabbits who are naughty and nice

Small Pet Select 2nd cut Timothy Hay
Oxbow Large Timothy Mat
Science Selective Loops Rabbit Treats
Oxbow Digestive Support
Oxbow Simple Rewards Rabbit Treats
Oxbow Joint Support
PetAg Bene-Bac Plus Probiotic Gel
Oxbow Timothy Hay Barrel
Oxbow Timothy Bungalow Hideout
Chewy eGift Card

CLICK HERE

to select and order through Chewy!
Thank you!

*The Bunnies will love
You for it!*

*Thank you in
Advance!*