



Search This Site

Hillside SPCA, PO Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901  
570-622-7769

Get the latest news, updates, happenings, a  
announcements right in your em  
SUBSCRIBE to the Hillside Email Newsletter L

- Home
- Animals Available
- Adoption Info
- Animal Care Tips
- Donate
- About Us
- Directions
- Send Email
- Guestbook
- Fundraising
- Volunteering
- Newsletter
- Favorite Links

**You Are Here > The Joys of Senior Pets**

Many people express apprehension at adopting an older pet, but there are a number of advantages to having an older cat or dog.

In cats, night-time and post-litterbox "kitty frenzies" are kept to a minimum in the older cat. If you have ever had a younger kitten, you must remember the nightly up-and-down the hallway or stairway madness which comes on with the onset of the evening star. Additionally, the older cat, when invited into your bed at night will generally sleep; all but totally eliminating the early morning kneading-kitty-in-the-face syndrome. In short, the older cat is as delightful a companion as a younger kitten.

The older dog, on the other hand, is a cozy companion. No wet newspapers to clean up with the mature dog in the home. Do you remember having to take the new puppy outside every couple of hours to make sure he does his "duty" outside where he is supposed to take care of his toilet, not in the middle of the living room rug, which is his preference. What about the 2:00 am whining sessions of a newly adopted puppy and the neighbors complaining? Then there's leash training and all the other behavior issues that come up -- chewed shoes and newspapers among them. Yes, indeed, there is something to say for the companionship of the older dog.

If you have visited our shelter, or plan to in the future, you will come to know some of our more mature guests. So, the next time you're considering adopting a pet, please consider the plight of the older cat or dog. While cute is nice, older is wiser! Having an older pet could be the best decision you've ever made. We believe that every animal deserves a chance. Why not adopt an older pet and make his or her life memorable for them and for you.

**DONATE ON-LINE!**  
Donate to the Hillside On-Line. Choose a single time donation or subscribe to our Monthly Recurring Donor Subscription program. It's fast, easy and secure! Why not [DONATE](#) TODAY?

**Important...**

We often have senior pets for adoption at the Hillside SPCA. Many have suffered greatly in their lives, have lost a beloved lifelong owner, are victim of a broken family, or simply are tossed away as "too old" or "not wanted anymore". These animals have a LOT of life and love left to give. Won't you open your heart to them?

**FACT...**

**Of Interest...**

[Senior Dogs Project](#) - marvelous site for those interested in (or who already have) Senior Dogs. Answers potential adopters' questions about older dogs, including health, training, and adoption concerns. Includes testimonials from Senior Dog adopters. And yes, you CAN teach an old dog new tricks!

[Senior Dogs for Senior People](#) - a match made in Heaven. Senior dogs in many ways are the same as their human counterparts. Many of the same ailments and general problems are faced by both man and dog. One devastating problem is losing the person closest to them. For the human senior, the loss of that lifetime mate is a tragic experience. The loss of a lifetime owner can be equally difficult for the canine senior. Both the human and the dog need someone in their lives, and often the best decision is to put these two seniors together.

Suffering from the loss of a Senior dog and apprehensive about adopting another one that you might lose soon again? Some people feel that giving a home to an older dog in need is a tribute to their former companion and it actually eases their pain. Also, knowing that adoption has saved a dog from life in a shelter, or in many shelters, euthanasia and will allow the dog quality time for whatever period he or she has left, often enables people to focus on the positives and to deal better with loss.

Copyright 1999-2004, All Rights Reserved  
Design and Maintenance Courtesy of **Lori Fogg**, Virtual Office Assistant Service