

Georgia Gives Day Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Georgia Gives Day?

GAgives is an initiative co-created by the nonprofit sector itself. It doesn't support one cause or one locale – it's all of us in the state's nonprofit sector pulling together to ask you to stop and consider your life and your community without nonprofits. On December 1, 2020 we will challenge the public in a "flash mob of giving" focusing on one 24-hour period to see how much we can raise for Georgia's nonprofits.

2. What is Giving Tuesday Now

Giving Tuesday Now is a new global day of giving and unity that will take place on **May 5, 2020** – in addition to the regularly scheduled Dec 1, 2020 #GivingTuesday – as an emergency response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19.

3. What is this year's theme?

Our theme this year is community. Despite all the recent uncertainty, there is one thing we are positive about. PAWS Atlanta exists because of and for the community. This Georgia Gives Day, we are once again asking for your support so we can come together to serve people and pets for many years to come. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our services are more essential than ever. We sent out an emergency call for fosters and over 100 people stepped up in one week alone. And many of those people decided to make their foster pets permanent additions to their families. This is a lonely time for many people, but our pets provide constant company and comfort in the face of social isolation and high anxiety. Those who were alone are no longer alone, and there is a sense of purpose for all of us—to ensure these pets receive the best care despite the circumstances.

Because of your continued commitment and support, we are able to take in more homeless pets, provide them with top-notch medical care, assist those facing financial hardship with our food bank, and be a resource of information on pet ownership, animal welfare, and fostering to the entire community. We are looking forward to doing even more this year and for many years to come. Thank you for joining us this Georgia Gives Day and being a voice for pets all over the state that have found themselves without families, but never without support.

4. How do I donate to PAWS Atlanta on Georgia Gives Day?

We encourage our supporters to donate through the Georgia Gives Day platform:
<https://www.gagives.org/organization/Paws-Atlanta-Incorporated>

5. When should I donate?

All donations from Now – December 1 through [our page](#) will count towards our Georgia Gives Day goal of \$50,000.

6. How do I become a fundraiser?

Visit <https://www.gagives.org/c/GGD/a/pawsatlanta> and click "Fundraise" button on the right side of the page. You will be led through the steps to create your fundraising page. Please be sure to share your page through social media, emails to your network, etc. You will be surprised who gives to help PAWS save lives!

7. Why choose PAWS Atlanta on Georgia Gives Day?

Over 53 years ago, ordinary caring citizens came together in search for a better way to help Georgia's homeless animals. They asked, "What can we do to make a difference? Together, they raised the money to open the DeKalb Humane Society with the overriding philosophy that it would be a no-kill shelter, where every animal would stay until they found a home. Over the years, we've grown, but our philosophy remains. We are Georgia's oldest no-kill animal shelter committed to saving lives for 53 years.

Through our creative programs and partnerships, we are able to save over 1,000 animals every year.

- [Java Cats Cafe](#): Removing barriers for our feline friends
- [Holiday Lovin'](#): Holiday dates with dogs
- [Wags N' Walks](#): Hikes with dogs
- [PAWS PALS](#): Summer camps for kids
- [Fox 5 Atlanta](#): Pet of the Day segment

When you give on Georgia Gives Day – you join the PAWS community so together we can continue our lifesaving work for the next 53 years. Thank you for caring about our animals. Your gift helps to save more lives.

8. Why do I have to donate through the Georgia Gives Day Website?

This makes it easy for PAWS Atlanta to see how much we have raised at one point in time. The Georgia Gives Day platform is updated in real time.

9. Where is PAWS Atlanta?

5287 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30035 (outside of Avondale Estates)

10. How do you adopt?

PAWS Atlanta follows an adoption process to ensure that each cat or dog is placed in a safe and loving forever home. When you first arrive to the shelter, we welcome you to meet our animals

and see who you connect with. Please feel free to sit and cuddle a kitty in our Cat Cottage or take a pup for a stroll on our walking trails.

Once a match is made, an adoption application and interview is completed. You can find the dog and cat application on our website under the tab Adopt a Pet. You can complete this form at home or at the shelter. This is an open conversation to ask additional questions. We also request that all family members meet the new dog or cat to make sure s/he is the right fit for everyone.

All adopters must be 21 years of age or older with a valid form of picture identification. PAWS Atlanta reserves the right to refuse adoption to anyone for the protection of our animals. In some cases, we ask adopters to submit to a home inspection prior to finalizing the adoption.

11. How many years has PAWS been around?

Over 54 years! We were founded by a group of volunteers in 1966 under the no-kill philosophy. Every animal who comes to us is safe and cared for until they found a permanent loving home, no matter how long it takes.

12. General information about PAWS

PAWS Atlanta is a 501c3 non-profit organization located in Decatur, Georgia, 10 miles east of Atlanta. In the state of Georgia, animal control departments are overwhelmed and have extremely high euthanasia rates (some as high as 80%). Over 50 years ago, in 1964, ordinary caring citizens—teachers, homemakers, business people—came together and said that there must be a better way, and asked the question, “What can we do to make a difference?” Together, they rolled up their sleeves and began to raise money. Through bake sales, car washes, yard sales, and other fundraising—little by little—they raised the money they needed to purchase a property and home (our current location). Here, as a completely volunteer-run independent organization, they started the DeKalb Humane Society (incorporated in 1966) with the overriding philosophy that it would be a no-kill shelter, where every animal would stay until they could find a new home. Over the years, new buildings were added and an adjacent property was purchased. In 2002, we changed our name to PAWS Atlanta. As an independent organization, we are Georgia’s oldest no-kill animal shelter, and for over 50 years we have been working hard in our community to care for animals in need and entrust them into loving families.

PAWS Atlanta is a very special place in our community that includes our veterinary facilities and adoption center, along with a unique 3.5 acre wooded walking trail and off-leash area. These areas not only provide a peaceful place for prospective pet-parents to walk through pathways and interact with our animals, but also a special area for our animals waiting to be adopted to enjoy times to run free, play with other dogs, and check out our agility equipment and numerous toys. We believe that people and pets bring out the best in each other. Therefore, our mission is to build a community of caring, by people helping pets and pets helping people.

Our programs include:

- Pet adoption and foster services
 - Summer Lovin': Weekend foster program
 - Holiday Lovin': Holiday dates with dogs
- Bi-monthly pet wellness clinics
- Discount health preventatives
- Behavioral training to keep pets in their homes
- A pet food bank for loving pet parents going through hard times
- Summer camps for kids
- Community outreach and education

13. What kind of volunteer opportunities does PAWS Atlanta have?

- Wags N' Walks: Hikes with dogs
- Offsite Adoption Events: Help our pups find loving homes
- Admin Assistant: Keep the PAWS team organized and on task to save lives.
- Foster Home Inspector: Ensure all PAWS animals receive a high standard of care in their temporary homes.
- Adoption Outreach: Support new adopters through follow-up phone calls so we can keep people and pets together.
- Pet Wellness Clinic: Help to ensure our community's pets are healthy and vaccinated.

14. How do I volunteer?

- <http://www.pawsatlanta.org/volunteer>
 - Complete our volunteer application
 - Sign up for orientation
 - Come to the shelter to volunteer or pick another opportunity.