

Paws-It!

Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter



Volume 8 Issue 1

A match made in heaven ... or maybe not?

What if you've decided to adopt another ferret, but your current fuzz is not quite up for it? You've taken him to the shelter and he was rather blasé about the whole affair, but you came home with a new addition anyway. But now that you're home, things are not going so well.

We recommend introducing the ferrets in a neutral area. Let the two of them out to explore and see how they do. If fighting begins straight-away, break out the Ferretone (available in pet stores). Put the Ferretone along the scruffs of both ferrets and let them lick each other clean. See, the new ferret isn't so bad... he's tasty!

Make each time they see each other a wonderful experience. Gradually they will get excited when they're put together because that means it's

treat time!

If you have to resort to housing them separately, switch their bedding back and forth so they get used to each other's smell.

However, sometimes you just have to let them 'dook' things out. A general rule of thumb is if there's no blood, no fear pooping (pooping or urinating at the sight of the other ferret, or while fighting) and no screaming, you're good to go.

Try wearing them out first by taking them for a long walk outside where they'll rub their smell off on the grass while tiring out at the same time. Or let them play in separate areas until they're feeling more agreeable.

Keep in mind that misery loves company. If you can't get them to leave each other

alone, try a squirt bottle. If you can't get them apart using that, a quick dousing in the sink will definitely get their attention. But watch your fingers doing this as an angry ferret may not realize who he's going after. Take a time-out and let tempers die down, and then try again the next day.

If you notice signs of stress (loose stools, fear pooping, obvious fear of the other ferret), take things slower.

Always remember that we're here at the shelter to help you, so please call or email us anytime (even if the ferrets were not adopted from us)! You're welcome to bring both ferrets to us for help integrating them. And if things ultimately do not work out, we'll be here to help in that situation as well.

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Charity & Jason's Ohana

Frolicking Ferrets!



How to Contact Us!

- Shelter Voicemail
206.442.2025
- Shelter Email
liane@ferretlovers.com
- Website
<http://washingtonferret.org>

What's New?

General Update:

Wonderful news! We're now on Petfinder, an awesome shelter & pet locator service! (www.petfinder.com) We're excited to reach such a wide range of people!

Ferret Frolic:

The Ferret Frolic in June was a blast. The ferrets that own Charity & Jason really raked it in, taking awards in the costume contest, the dash, swimming, sitting-up and even taking grand champion! Way to go guys!

Ferret-proofing ... or the battle of wills.

If you've lived with ferrets for any length of time, you know that they can be quite willful creatures. If they're bored, they can and often do get themselves into trouble!

When first proofing your home, we recommend getting down on ferret-level (i.e. the floor) and patching any obvious holes with plywood as it is cheap, durable and won't be an eye-sore if it's discretely placed.

Run your hands along the undersides of cupboards, place outlet covers over any open outlets and zip-tie any loose electrical cords and put them up & out of the way. Baby-proofing items are quite helpful in these cases. You can purchase anything from cabinet door locks, to fire place guards so that your white fuzzy doesn't suddenly change colors.

Some ferrets are chewers, so please put away any pencils (erasers especially), rubber children's toys and all remotes.

Pet Expo:

The Pet Expo (Jul 13 & 14) was enjoyed by everyone who went. The Shelter handed out brochures & helped spread the word about our cause.

Alpine Days:

Please join us in North Bend for Alpine Days, Aug. 9-10. We will be along the parade route in front of the Senior Center.

Cava Companions:

This event will be in August. The details

haven't been ironed out yet, but will be on the website just as soon as we know!

Conifur 2003:

Please join us for Conifur. This is a huge fund-raising event for the Shelter! It's on September 26-28 at the Sheraton in Tacoma. More information can be found at: www.conifur.org.

Our Website:

Our web server is being upgraded—Please be patient while we switch over!

Look over any new stuffed animals to make sure the eye and nose pieces are ferret-safe. Rubber objects are particularly appealing to ferrets. However, small pieces can become lodged internally, resulting in a life-threatening blockage. There are foul-tasting products available like Bitter Apple that can be applied to electrical cords and similar items to prevent 'tasting' or boredom chewing.

Take care that all medications are stored safely out the reach of pets and children. If your pet inadvertently finds any medication, rush him to the vet immediately!

The best furniture to use with ferrets is futons. Recliners and hide-a-way couches are potential hazards if sat upon while the ferret is between the springs. Instituting a rule that no one sits in the recliner while ferrets are at play is a great idea. Applying plywood to the underside of couches prevents ferrets from crawling underneath. However, you will have to watch that they

do not crawl into the couch from above while playing on it.

Box springs can be safe-guarded by nailing a thin piece of plywood to the bed, or by taking a fitted sheet and putting it on the underside of the box spring.

Check those window screens—if your ferret teleports on top of a window sill, make sure that in his determination he cannot displace the screen.

Many ferrets like to climb and are smart enough to shove moveable objects in order to get to places that they really shouldn't be. Watch that heavier objects cannot topple over, squashing your ferret.

Ferret-proofing one room or a particular area may be an easier way to go. Many of our volunteers have used and highly recommend the Marshall Ferret Playpen. Several of them can be hooked together to allow for a secure, safe area for your ferret to play.

At the Bridge. We would like to remember those fuzzies who brought us so much joy... Their time with us was too short.

John-John—Jason & Charity took exceptional care of their foster boy, John. His health began fading after several wonderful years with them and he passed in his sleep, at home with his buddies.

Mocha—Mocha was an adorable little blind girl that was fortunate to find a forever home through the shelter. She passed in her sleep surrounded by her friends. She will be dearly missed by Brandy & family.

Hera—Hera came into the Shelter in horrible shape. Her health continued to deteriorate in the months after her surgery, despite the wonderfully caring hospice of Cara & Jeff.

Spike—Spike will be missed by Jeremy & family. He was an older chap that passed due to poor health.

Pepper—Pepper was Jeff & Cara's first ferret. He was sent to the bridge with many tears after a long fight to keep him healthy. He was a lucky, lucky fuzz to have found his way to Cara & Jeff, and he will definitely be missed.

Rachel—Although Rachel was only with us for a short time, she will always be remembered. She passed in her sleep, losing her battle with insulinoma.

Nazzy—Nazzy will be dearly missed by Megan & Geoff. He was an ornery ol' man that ruled the roost. We managed

lymphoma with him the best we could & are deeply saddened by his loss—it's just not the same without him.

Maggie—Maggie leaves her foster mom & dad, Michelle and Bill, with a huge hole in their hearts. She was so loved & we're so glad they were able to give her a forever home.

Max—Max will be missed by Misty Birdie. He was her first rescue and the one responsible for getting her involved in rescue.

Xena—Hella & family shed many tears for their Xena. Sometimes there is nothing more that can be done, but to send them on with our love.

Ferrets Seeking Homes.

Adoptable Ferrets

Julie—Julie is a young fuzz, and boy does she love to play! She gets along well with all other ferrets and is definitely ready to go to her new home.

Larry & Nickels—Larry is a handsome silver blaze boy, and Nickels is a huge sable boy! They're active and silly, so if you're looking for a great pair to add to your group, come and get them!

Weezer—Weezer is a very cuddly (when he wants to be!) 1 year old sable male that's full of energy and would love to join your playgroup!

Snickelfritz—Who cannot love a ferret with that name? Snick is an adorable two year old sable boy who's looking for a wonderful new home.

Flora & Fauna—Flora and Fauna are cute twin sable girls. They were privately bred, but are very nervous about being in the shelter. One of them does bite pretty hard, so no children for these gals just yet!

Fera & Febe—Fera & Febe are two adorable little girls. They are very attached, so we do not want to separate them. Fera loves to run around the yard and is around 4 years old. Febe is 3 and is much more skittish than her sister.

Bandit—Bandit is a 3 year old chocolate girl that doesn't particularly like other ferrets. She would love a new home where she can be an only child.

Enzo—Enzo is a light sable male, 2.5 years in age. He gets along well with other ferrets and loves to play, play, play!

Marty—Marty is a beautiful 2 year old silver. She hates being caged (she's been in a little carrier most of her life), so she's really looking forward to finding a new home with MORE playtime!

Dinky—Dinky is a 1.5 year old sable boy. We call him a "monkey fert" because he clings to you when he's picked up. He gets along well with other ferrets and is definitely ready to go to his new home.

Neo—Neo is a beautiful 3 year old silver. He's a very active guy that would love to get out of the shelter.

Aurora—Aurora is a 2.5 year old light sable girl. She's been an only fert all her

life and needs someone to spoil her rotten!

Keith, Oscar & Felix—These three boys are chalk full of energy! They're three years old, but still play like kits. Come see them today!

July—July is a 2 year old sable boy that has lived outside on the back porch in a dog crate for all of his life. He needs a home that will show him how real ferrets are supposed to live!

Farah & Puffin—Farah is a cute 2 year old sable blaze, and Puffin is a sweet 2 year old albino. These girls would love to find a new home together.

Nibbler—Nibbler is a 2 year old light sable boy that loves other ferrets. He'd be happy to bounce right in to any home!

Zoe & Moe—Zoe (f) & Moe (m) are two 6 month old sable cuties! They get along wonderfully with other ferrets.

Max & Jag—Max (light sable) & Jag (dark sable) are 1.5 year old boys. They're adorable and would make a fun addition to any play group.

Harley & Binks—Harley (m) & Binks (f) are both sable & 1.5 years old. They're in great shape and are definitely ready to get out of the shelter and onto the business of playing with their new human.

Snoopy & Dharma—This pair of 2 year old sable girls would love a new home where they can play their little hearts out!

Bandit, Belle & Daisy—Bandit is a 3 year old light sable male, Daisy is a 2 year old silver female & Belle is a 1 year old dark sable female. Threesomes are typically hard to place... Do you have room in your home for just three more?

Foster Ferrets

Note: We do not charge an adoption fee for our foster ferrets, though many of them will require frequent vet visits and/or additional care. The shelter provides vet care and any medications that the foster ferret will need. However, we ask that you either live close to the shelter or be willing to travel.

Splash—Splash is a 3-4 year old chocolate blaze girl. Splash's coat is rather ratty from the conditions she lived in, but we predict that with some good food and Lupron, she'll be gorgeous in no time!

Bo, Link & Murphy—These three boys would love a new home. Murphy has some small tumors on his face that our vet will take a look at before he leaves the shelter, and Bo needs to be looked at as well. Link appears to be completely healthy.

Delia & Otter—Delia is a 4 year old female and Otter is a 5 year old male. Otter had a chordoma (grape-sized tumor) removed from the end of his tail, so he has a slightly stubbed tail at present. He also has adrenal disease, which means that he will need to come back to the shelter every three months for a Lupron shot.

Kooka Bear—Kooka Bear is a 5-6 year old male that's a beautiful dark silver. He needs to put on some weight and be in a home where he'll get tons of love.

Rodney—Rodney is a 5 year old sable male that's looking for a new human to love. He's currently under observation due to some health issues, but if you're comfortable dealing with that, please let us know!

Mickey & Bear—Mickey & Bear are two elderly ferrets that were paired together when they came into the shelter. Bear is still dealing with some health problems and will need to be hand-fed for some time. Mickey is doing wonderfully and loves to snuggle.

Cappuccino—Cappuccino will need a ferret health savvy foster home. She seems to slip in and out of periods of good health and will need someone to keep a close eye on her.

Pip—Pip is around four years old and is definitely a snuggler. She doesn't particularly like other ferrets at this time, but she may be convinced to change her mind ... who knows! She has insulinoma which will require daily medication twice each day.

Joey & Rosco—Joey & Rosco are two older gents that would love a new home. Roscoe will need to return every three months for a Lupron shot, but Joey has been completely healthy so far!

Washington Ferret Rescue and Shelter
18724 Bothell Way NE
Bothell, WA 98011

We're on the Web!
www.washingtonferret.org

A 501(c)3 non-profit organization

Yes, I want to help Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter!

Enclosed is my donation of:

- \$5.00 ()
\$10.00 ()
\$15.00 ()
\$20.00 ()
Other ()

Please make your donation payable to Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter (or WFRS) and mail to:

18724 Bothell Way NE

Bothell, WA 98011

Contributions are tax-deductible under 501(c)3 regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Appropriate receipts will be mailed for your records.

Our Wish List:

Hammocks, Security Cubes—homemade or store bought, we can always use hanging sleep sacks of some sort.

Wood stove pellets for litter (found at Safeway, local hardware stores, the Grange, etc.)

Cages or carriers—clean or dirty, we don't care!

Volunteers to wash laundry, scoop boxes, scrub cages and cuddle ferrets.

More foster homes! Do you have room in your home for a few extra fuzzies for a few days/weeks? Do you have any medical training or are you interested in learning? Let us know!

Ferret Food (Mazuri, Totally Ferret, Marshalls & The Ferret Store's Superior Choice)

() I am moving! Please see below:

() Yes, I know of someone else who would like to receive the newsletters.

Please send one to the following:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:
