

Paws-It!

Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter

Mark your calendars!

We have a couple of really important events coming up that we'd love for you to attend! So please mark your calendars for the following!

Oktoberfest:

Please come out and join us at the first annual Oktoberfest! The NW School of Aviation is hosting a BBQ benefiting the Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter, a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing, rehabbing and re-homing ferrets around the Pacific NW. The event will feature German brews, German sausages and a host of other yummy things. Feel free to also bring your own treats to add to the potluck! And please bring some extra pennies to spend at the raffle table and silent auction too! There will be ferret and non-ferret items for bid. Save the date: Sunday,

September 4th from 1pm-6pm. Rain or shine there is an indoor hangar. Address: Paine Field, 10108 32nd Avenue W, Suite C, Everett, WA 98204. RSVP to either: washingtonferret@yahoo.com or to dave@northwestschoolofaviation.com



Conifur:

Save the dates—**Friday, October 21-23rd** is Conifur!

Conifur is a really fun convention for anthropomorphic media enthusiasts to come out and

show off their stuff. There will be costumes, art, comics, movies & related media. You might even have a chance to get your picture taken with the gent in the giant ferret costume :)

The wonderful folks at Conifur annually hold an auction benefiting the Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter. It's a huge fundraiser for us, and we'll be there with our ferrets again this year to say hi to everyone that comes.

For more info, please visit: www.conifur.org or email washingtonferret@yahoo.com.

If you'd like to sit at the booth with us or if you are interested in helping at Oktoberfest, please let us know! We'd love the help!

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How to Contact Us!

Shelter Voicemail:
206.442.2025

Shelter Email:
washingtonferret@yahoo.com

Website:
<http://washingtonferret.org>

What's New?

Wanted: Pooper scoopers and ferret wranglers!

We have an opening for a Shelter cleaner once a week during the day. Responsibilities include: cleaning boxes, filling water & food, checking on all the ferrets and letting the kids out to play! Nothing too hard! Must have own transportation and be dependable.

We also have a few fuzzies that have not yet learned their manners. If you are an experienced ferret owner and would like to try your hand (or fingers) with the biters, we could definitely use your help! Send us an email at washingtonferret@yahoo.com if you'd like to help.

Café Press:

Support your local shelter and get some really neat stuff at: <http://www.cafepress.com/wfrs> Check out the latest in Shelter fashions, bumper stickers and coffee mugs all with our logo! Proceeds go to support our shelter and all that money goes directly right back to the ferrets.

Got Ferrets?:

Help advertise & support our shelter at the same time by applying this cute window decal (pictured right) to your car! The decals are \$5 a piece and are available at our shelter or we will ship one to you if you email your address to washingtonferret@yahoo.com.



Forum:

Don't forget that the shelter has a forum - <http://www.network54.com/Forum/412133> Sign up & chat with other local ferret lovers!

When life hands you lemons ...

We all hit those times when we just do not have enough money or time or anything left of ourselves to spare and we feel like bad ferret parents and contemplate rehoming our kids. Here are some time & money saving tips for helping you get through the rough patches until your feet get on more solid ground.

Veterinary Care:

Budget accordingly. Ferrets will easily run you \$1,000 in their lifetime. Start putting away money now for veterinary care when they are older.

Save a credit card just for emergency expenses.

Check into pet insurance! Your veterinarian can help you choose the best plan for you & your fuzzy friends.

Establish a relationship with a qualified ferret vet so that when times are tight, you may be able to work out a payment

plan.

Weigh your options. Ferrets with adrenal disease can be treated medically and/or surgically. Ask about all the risks & costs involved in each, and in waiting—your ferret's veterinarian can help you select the best choice for your ferret and for you!

Don't get over your head. We all know that ferrets are incredibly addicting, but be careful about adding so many that there is no money down the road.

No time:

Invest in a portable playpen (<http://www.ferretstore.com/playconun.html>) and let the ferrets out in a safe location while you're cooking dinner, paying bills or attending to other tasks. Bathroom and kitchen floors are typically linoleum and are easy areas to clean



should your ferret make a mistake.

Ferret proof an area where your ferret can safely play unsupervised. That way he can entertain himself while you're otherwise occupied and will still get time out to play each day.

Get your ferret a buddy! Let them wear each other out so you have more time to take care of the critical parts of ferret care like food, water & a clean litter box.



Maximize your time. Make sure the cage is set up for easy cleaning with a removable litter box that can be dumped when it needs to be cleaned quickly. Have a laundry basket handy and throw dirty bedding there so you can launder it all at once. Keep extra water bottles full and available for easy changing. Keep a broom, spray cleaner, paper towels, clean bedding, clean litter, scoop & a garbage can at hand for quick tidying up.

No Money:

Ferrets do not need anything terribly expensive aside from vet care. Litter boxes can be purchased at the grocery store for as little as a dollar. Water bottles and food bowls can often be located at Thrift Stores, which are also a great spot to find cheap bedding. Anything soft will be great for a ferret—even old clothing is fun, since it has ready-made tubes! Your local shelter (us!) also will make you great deals on toys, cages, bedding and other ferret items.

You can use wood stove pellets for litter which can be purchased at grocery, home improvement or feed stores. 40 lb bags run around \$4/bag and will last for quite a while with

only a few ferrets.

Ferrets can have bits of your meal as treats, and do not require any of the commercially available & expensive treats, despite what the little beggars tell you.

At the shelter, we don't recommend excessive bathing since it will make the ferrets smell stronger than they usually do. Just keep their ears clean and launder their bedding regularly and you can save on the cost of shampoo!

Save on food by buying larger sizes! Our shelter uses Mazuri Ferret which can be found at the local feed store for under \$30 for a 20 lb bag. Checking online at the various food dealers is a great way to find good buys as well.

Moving to a no-pets place:

Please call ahead and find out if your new place will accept ferrets. There's nothing worse than being evicted or having to re-home your ferrets because they're not allowed. PAWS has a list of pet-friendly apartments, located at <http://paws.org/cas/apt/>, though you will still need to check with your new management and make sure that ferrets specifically are allowed.

In the military? We do have a contact that will do long-term boarding if you are interested. Please email us at washingtonferret@yahoo.com for more information.

Training Problems?:

Biting, odor, litter box problems? We can help! Email us at washingtonferret@yahoo.com for suggestions.

We want you and your ferret to be happy together.

Just plain can't do it & still want to surrender your ferrets:

Ferrets are incredibly emotional animals. The older they are, the more they have bonded to their human families and the harder the struggle to adapt when at the shelter. Just being home with you & your family on some days is enough for them to continue being happy. If you can open up 15 minutes a day and put it toward ferret care, that is likely enough. Just 15 minutes. Who cannot spare that much time?

Move them into your living room or centralized location where they can see, hear and interact with people more often. When they're out of sight, they're often out of mind. Moving them to a more active location won't allow anyone to forget about them!

Consider keeping them at home and having adopters referred to you. We at the shelter are happy to list your ferrets on our websites and have people contact you directly.

If you choose to surrender them to the shelter, please bring their veterinary paperwork so they will not have to be revacci-



nated, the food that they were eating (so we do not upset their tummies any more than they already will be, and some used bedding that will make our shelter feel a little more like home. Some ferrets get adopted really quickly and others are at the shelter for quite a while. Our shelter does not euthanize for space, so your ferret will remain there or in a foster home until he or she is adopted. Fortunately, most dog/cat shelters do work with a ferret shelter in their area, but this is not always the case. For your animal's safety, do ask before surrendering! We do know all our animals by name at the shelter, so if you have to surrender your furry

kids, know what you can check in on them whenever you like via email or by dropping in.

Want to re-home them yourself? If you adopted them from a shelter, check your contract—most shelters & breeders want their ferrets back if you cannot keep them. They would prefer to screen homes themselves and find another approved family. If you did not adopt the ferrets from a shelter or purchase them from a breeder, you can place a free classified ad online at <http://www.petfinder.com/post/classifiedhop.html> or on <http://seattle.craigslist.org/pet/> We do suggest charging an adoption fee to dissuade folks looking for free/cheap snake

food. At the shelter, we check with a landlord to make sure that ferrets are allowed in the building and with a veterinarian to make sure that our ferrets are going to approved homes. Don't feel shy about asking these questions, a good owner will out themselves by being prepared to give you that information as well as provide you with a personal reference if asked.



Ferrets Seeking Homes ...

Adoptable Ferrets

Please see our [adoptable pet list](#) on our website for current availabilities. Adoption fees range from \$75 to \$100 for one ferret, \$150 for two, and we have a [foster program](#) as well. All ferrets have been vaccinated against Canine Distemper & Rabies and have been spayed/neutered and descented (unless otherwise noted).

Bailey (silver blaze, m) & **Margarita** (DEW, f) are cute & friendly ferrets. Margarita can be a bit



nippy and will need an experienced owner. Bailey is a wildman that loves to dance up a storm.

Bear is a cute 1 year old dark sable boy. He seems to get along well with other ferrets and is overall very sweet & cuddly.

Boris is a sable male that doesn't get along real well with other ferrets. He's older (4ish) and is pres-

ently healthy. So if you'd like a single boy, he's the ferret for you!

Bud is a 1.5 year old sable male. Bud is a cute & busy boy that gets along well with other ferrets. He'd love to join just about any group!



Sosa is a feisty champagne girl that isn't fond of other ferrets and **Cartman** is an adorable lug of a boy that enjoys cuddling with his humans and playing with his buddy.

Cocoa (dark sable, f) & **Honey** (choc, f) are new to our shelter. They seem like sweet girls and should be ready to go to a new home shortly!

Diablo is a big 1 year old sable boy with a cream head and **Hades** is a big, dark sable boy that's around 2 years old. Both ferrets bite and will need an ex-



perienced home.

Dweezil (1.5y sable m), **Wild Thing** (1 yr dark sable m), **Bling Bling** (1y silver m) & **Bear** (1 yr albino m) were all surrendered together. They like other ferrets, and are a fun & silly group. They can be adopted with other ferrets or as pairs.

Freddie is an 8 month old albino male. He is cute and feisty and



would be happy to join just about any group.

Isis is as cute as a button, but has a bad habit of biting. She will need to go to a ferret-saavy home where she will be understood.

Jake (dark sable, m) & **Archie** (sable, m) are sweet boys looking for a new home. Both boys are about 3 years old and get along well with other ferrets & dogs.

Jerry is an older chocolate boy with a crooked nose and **Kayla** is a younger, mellow girl. Both fer-

rets do well with others and are as sweet as can be.



Lewis is an adorable dark-eyed white male that's around 1.5 years old. He just arrived at our Shelter, but already seems very friendly and is fitting in great.

Trinity, Marlin, Baby G, Neko & Scratchy all came in together. They all like other ferrets as well as each other. They can be adopted with one of their buddies or into homes with other ferrets. Note: 7/2 Trinity & Neko were adopted today!

Mercury & Mars are 2 year old dark sable boys. Mercury can be a bit nippy, but we feel he'll get better with some work. Mars is a sweetheart. Both are micro-chipped, neutered & have been vaccinated.

Mindy needs an experienced home. She gets along fine with other ferrets, but has taken up biting. We would like to place her in a child-free home with a ferret savvy owner.



Mitch (m, silver/sable), **Skeeter** (m, cinnamon) & **Jewel** (f, sable) were all surrendered this past weekend. They are all 4.5-5 yrs old. They are all presently healthy and should have a couple of good, healthy years left in them. Come visit these sweet kids today!

Oozie & Silver are two fluffy white boys. They just arrived at our Shelter and are as sweet as sweet can be. Come see them soon!

Pishka is a 1 year old silver male and **Kyky** is a 1 year old chocolate female. Both get along well with other ferrets and would happily move into any group. Come see

them today!

Ranger (sable, m) & **Peaches** (albino, f) were just recently surrendered. They are both around 1-1.5 years old. Peaches has cataracts in both eyes and has limited vision. She may bite if scared. Ranger is a chubby cutie and is a sweetheart.

Romeo & Spaz are twin sable boys with bibs and white kneepads. They are both sweethearts and are all set to go to a new home.



Salt is a 1 year old dark-eyed white female. She gets along well with other ferrets and has a wonderful attitude.

Sasha (choc, f), **Aaliyah** (choc, f) & **Apricot** (albino, f) are sweet girls that are between 2.5-3 yrs of age. They're sweet with people and with other ferrets. We'd love to find them a home where they can stay together since they've become pretty close buddies.

Skittles is a 2 year old chocolate girl and her buddy, **Gracie** is a 2 year old dark sable female. They are sweet, playful and are in need of a new home.

Spaz is a cute 1.5 year old silver boy. He would love to go to a new home where he can be an only child.

Tiny is a 4 year old albino male & **Etta** is a 1 year old dark sable female. They have just arrived at our Shelter and we are just getting to know them. More details to be posted soon.

Weasie (f, sable) & **Jack** (m, silver sable) are young kids that just arrived back at the Shelter.

They are about 1.5 yrs old and and love to play, play, play!



Foster Ferrets

Note: We do not charge an adoption fee for our foster ferrets, though many of them will require a vet visit (or many!) in their golden years. The Shelter provides medical care and any medications that your ferret will need in exchange for a monthly donation to help cover your ferret's medical costs. Even just a few dollars, once a month, helps keep our foster program running, so that we are able to continue helping elderly/ill ferrets.

Buster is an elderly ferret with adrenal disease. He was just surrendered to our shelter and we are just getting to know him. So far he seems very sweet, and just in need a human to love. Are you that person?



Fred is a very sweet boy that's around 45 years of age. He gets along well with other ferrets and loves attention. Fred was recently diagnosed with adrenal disease and will need to return to the shelter each month for a Lupron injection.

Mish & Mash are twin sable boys. Mish is a sweetheart and is very cuddly. His brother, Mash, can bite very hard. They will need a ferret-experienced owner to work with Mash until he gets over his need to bite people. He is getting better with extensive handling, but he still needs work. Mish has a lobe on his spleen that will need to be removed surgically & Mash has a lobe on his left adrenal that will also need to come out. We'll be during surgery on these boys in the next month or so.

Sweetie is a 3-4 year old female ferret with adrenal disease. She would prefer a home with other ferrets that could bring her back routinely for her Lupron shot.

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:

Donations of time or money are always gladly accepted & appreciated!

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:
