

Paws-It!

Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter

Volume 23 Issue 1

WFRS Awarded Grant from Ferret Depot & Rabbit Stop

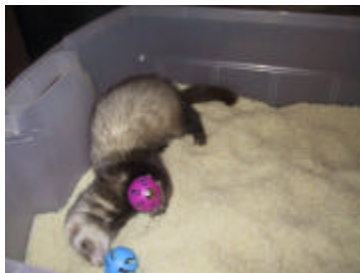
Christmas arrived early for the many deserving surrendered and fostered ferrets awaiting permanent homes at the Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter in Bothell. In December 2005, online retailers Ferret Depot and Rabbit Stop awarded the shelter \$500 to purchase canine distemper vaccines for the ferrets.

Leanna Aker, the shelter volunteer who completed the grant application, explained that foster ferrets are ones that are elderly or have some kind of medical condition that might prevent them from being adopted. The shelter provides medical care for its foster ferrets for the duration of their lives, including yearly vaccine boosters. "We have over 100 ferrets in foster care and take in over 100 ferrets each year," Aker said. "The shelter is very fortunate to have veterinary hours donated by Cathy Johnson-Delaney. Therefore, any medical costs are for

supplies and medications," she added.



This windfall came about because one of the ferret foster moms found out about the grant through an e-mail list. Additional good news was that the money was received in one lump sum.



WFRS was one of only 11 shelters nationally to be chosen for this much needed grant, said Ellen McDowell, director of public relations for J&J

Commerce, Inc., the company that owns Ferret Depot and Rabbit Stop. She stated that all applicants were judged on a set of criteria that included an objective point system. "The President of the company and I then chose the finalists from among an overwhelming amount of quality grants reviewed," Ms. McDowell said.

The criteria that the shelters were judged on included excellence in educational outreach, public awareness and fiscal responsibility. Not bad for a shelter run exclusively by volunteers!

Leanna said that the Bothell shelter will search for more grants to apply for and will have a fundraising committee that puts the applications together. The shelter tentatively plans to reapply for the Ferret Depot and Rabbit Stop grant again this year.

—Christine Auda

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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 some of our 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 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/each and are available at our shelter or we will mail one to you if you email your address to washingtonferret@yahoo.com.



Forum:

Don't forget that the shelter has a forum where ferret owners can get together & chat. Please visit <http://www.network54.com/Forum/412133>

The results are in!

Top 10 things that surprised you as a new ferret owner:

1. Dead Ferret Sleep! Admit it, it got you too!
2. What thieves they are and what sorts of things they find worthy of stealing, not to mention how fun it is to go through their stash!
3. How that fluffy body can squeeze through something about the size of a quarter.
4. The power of Ferretone, and how the world goes away when 'Tone is involved.
5. How quickly they steal your heart.
6. How much they poop!
7. How quickly they get into something they're not supposed to. It's like they have a radar for mischief!
8. How smart they are, and how they always keep you on your toes.
9. What individual attitudes & goofy personalities they can have.
10. How fast they can make a bad day turn around.



Top 10 reasons ferrets are surrendered, re-homed, given away, etc:

1. People do not realize how much human attention ferrets require.
2. Vet care is expensive when they're older!

3. Allergies.
4. "They stink" or they're messy.
5. Military deployment.
6. Moving to a no pets location or the complex specifically does not allow ferrets.
7. No time.
8. They're illegal in the state the person is moving to.
9. The kids stopped caring for them.
10. "We're having a baby!"

From our Forum; How many ferrets own you?

So how many ferrets own you?		
One	■	16.67 % (2)
Two-Three	■	16.67 % (2)
Four-Five		0.00 % (0)
Five-Ten	■	50.00 % (6)
More than Ten	■	16.67 % (2)
Total votes: 12		

How to be a good ferret.



1. Insoles should breathe. Your human will appreciate you airing them out and putting them away.
2. By that same logic, plant roots need air too. You should uncover them on a regular basis. This will also keep your human busy repotting and tending to the plant, so it won't get lonely.
3. Doorways should be decorated. Your human will shout with glee when he discovers what a great designer you are. Especially when it's dark and your human discovers your creation with his foot!
4. Some itches are particularly deserving and you should bolt out of a deep sleep, streak into the middle of the room and then proceed to scratch it.
5. Make sure your human gets a good workout every now and then. Sleep so soundly that



your human thinks you've passed away. That ought to get his heart rate really cooking. Then sleepily look up and act like you don't know what all the fuss is about.

6. Be finicky about your treats. This keeps your human thinking, and assures that you will only get the finest in ferret treats.
7. Humans like to buy stuff. Make sure to ignore what they buy initially and play with the package instead. This will not only get you more toys, but the packaging was just going to be



- thrown away anyway, right? Might as well have fun with it first!
8. Keep digging. You might actually make it to China one day. You'll never get anywhere unless you give it a try!
9. You cannot hear the word NO when you're not looking at your human. It takes a long time for most humans to learn this, so be sure to give them ample practice using it.
10. When your human seems grumpy, look/act cute and maybe give him a kiss. Looking cute will help you stay out of any trouble you might have



accidentally caused.

11. One of your jobs is to keep track of all of your treasures. Things like keys, wallets and other important items should be hidden thoroughly. This will make your human stay home longer to play with you!
12. You should supervise your human carefully. Make sure to help with whatever he is doing. You can help the best by getting in the middle of whatever your human is working on, that way he won't miss out on any of your advice.
13. If your human has just cleaned the litter box, be sure to poop on the floor just in front of it. You don't want to mess up a clean box!
14. Make sure your human smells nice. Sleep in his work clothes or curl up in his backpack. Your human will think of you when he goes to work or





school.

15. Always be ready to play when your human comes home. Your human will appreciate a reminder to let you out to play just after he looks like he's settled in for the evening. Around 2am is always a good time to wake up and play, don't you think?
16. Offer to test your human's food or drink. If you are pleased with it's taste, your human will be too! And every ferret

wants his human to be happy.

17. Eat, drink and war dance. That should be your philosophy for life.
18. Treat bellies look good on a ferret. Don't let anybody tell you otherwise. Be sure to ask for regular treats to keep up your weaselish figure.
19. Every day is a new adventure. Go over every square inch of your play area and thoroughly investigate anything new. Your human will appreciate that you've let yourself out to play in his absence and have approved all new items as safe for your human to play with.
20. When you don't feel well, act sad and pathetic. Speed-bump a lot, as this seems to get the attention of your human. Your human should baby you,

and hopefully will spoon feed you soup. Soup is probably the best food *ever*, so even when you're back to feeling healthy, pretend that you don't want to eat your boring old hard food so that your human will continue to feed you & you'll have that quality time together.

21. Give your human kisses, and maybe even cuddle with him every now and then. Humans like to be kept guessing about your mood.



Ferrets Seeking Homes ...

Adoptable Ferrets

Please see the [adoptable pet list](#) on our website for current availabilities. Adoption fees are \$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 (the latter is unless otherwise noted).

Bones & Widget could not stay in their home and have come to the shelter to be adopted. Bones is a 2 year old silver/sable boy and Widget is a 2 year old dark sable male. They are sweet, sweet boys and would make great first ferrets for someone.

Charlie & Waffles were turned over to our shelter from Animal Control. They seem like sweethearts and we'd love to see them get into a new home.

Dante is a 6 year old love-bug of a ferret. He has been an only ferret for some time, and will likely need to find a home by himself. He seems to be a very nice boy!

Harvey is a 4.5 year old silver mitt male. He is a cuddly & kissy ferret that would prefer to be an only child.

Jekyll, Hyde, Tyson & Hannibal are new to our shelter. They're from the UW, and two of the boys are very sweet, and the other two are presently nippers. They get along well with other ferrets and are currently learning their manners in the shelter.

Jerry is and older chocolate boy with a crooked nose and **Kayla** is a younger, mellow girl. Both ferrets do well with others and are as sweet as can be.

Koto & Bandit are two dark sable boys that are around 2 years of age. They are nice boys that

would love a new home!

Loki (DEW, m, 4 yrs) & **Chai** (sable, f, 4 yrs) are older ferrets looking for a home. They are healthy, fat & fluffy at this time and would be great first ferrets for someone.

Nazareth (4yr old sable male) & **Valhalla** (2 year old DEW male) were recently surrendered to our shelter. They have very nice temperaments and are anxiously awaiting a new home. Come see them today!





Pearline is a beautiful dark-eyed white ferret. She doesn't care for other ferrets, but has a wonderful temperament with humans!

Pikachu is a 2.5 year old sable female and **Rayden** is a gorgeous champagne male. They were turned in as part of a group of four when their owner could no longer keep them. They are used to being spoiled rotten and would love to find a home of their own soon!

Roxy & Foxy are two cute little spitfires. They are very young, but are pretty nippy and will need a ferret-savvy owner. Foxy bites when scared, and Roxy is very mouthy/nippy in general, but she's just having fun and it's simply a matter of teaching her manners. We'd love to see them go together, as they so enjoy each other's company, but they can be adopted separately if necessary.

Rufus (m, sable mitt) was found as a stray several months ago, was adopted and then returned some months later when his family changed homes and could no longer keep him. He now has a buddy, **Peanut** (m, dark sable), and we would love to find a home where they could remain together.

Smash & Crash are 5 month old sable males. They are adorable and are very playful! We enjoyed playing with them this past weekend, and know they'll be right

back out the door again soon.

Tinker (champagne, f), **Bell** (dew, f), **Spaz** (chocolate, m) & **Bandit** (dark sable, m) all came in together. They are all around 2 years old and we will separate them into pairs as needed. They are all very sweet ferrets and are very deserving of a new home.

Toodles is a 3 year old dark sable girl that doesn't like other ferrets. She loves people though and spent all day playing with the volunteers and being a lap ferret last week. Are you looking for a sweet girl to join your family?



Vlad & Slinky are 2-3 year old chocolate colored ferrets. They would love to find a home of their own with humans to spoil them rotten. They've had a rough go of it these past few months and sure deserve a good home.

Foster Ferrets

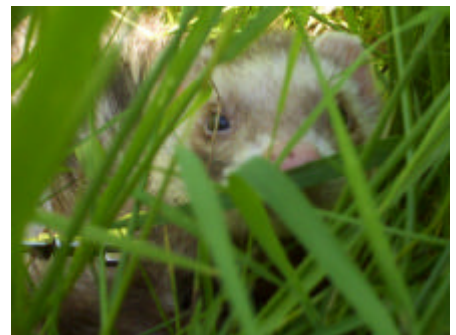
Note: We do not charge an adoption fee for our foster ferrets, though many of them will require a vet visit (or several!) in their golden years. The Shelter provides medical care and any medications, obtained at the shelter, that your ferret will need in exchange for a monthly donation to help cover 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.

Marlin & Scratchy are sweet 3 year old boys that would love to go to a new home together. Scratchy was diagnosed with adrenal disease and started on Lupron recently. He will need to return to the shelter once each month for a Lupron injection.

Mina (chocolate, f, 3 yrs) & **Neo** (silver, m, 5 yrs) were surrendered together. They enjoy the company of other ferrets and are very sweet. **Neo** will need to return to the shelter once 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 who will work with Mash until he gets over his need to bite people. He is getting better with extensive handling, but he still needs more work. Both are being treated with Lupron for adrenal disease and are doing just great.

Ranger (sable, m) & **Peaches** (albino, f) were surrendered together over a year ago. They are both around 3-4 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. They do not care for other ferrets, and will need to be an only pair.



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:
