3RD QUARTER
2026

The Silver Lining

Message from the President

As we move through 2026, it has already been an incredibly difficult year for those involved in animal rescue - not only here in Connecticut, but across the United States and around the world.

Shelters and rescues are overwhelmed, and the crisis in our state is not improving. Recent state data underscores how urgent this work remains. Connecticut law enforcement reported 25 animal-cruelty offenses during the first three months of 2026.

While we are not claiming that the actual number is higher, this figure reflects only offenses reported to law enforcement and included in the state statute crime-reporting system. It therefore leaves open the possibility that additional incidents occurred but were never reported or officially recorded.

In This Issue

President's Message...2
Decompression.....3
Winter Weather.....4
B.A.A.C. News.....5
Where in CT?.....6
CT State Law.....7
In Memoriam.....9
Cases.....10
Trainer's Corner.....11
Resources.....12
Donations.....13

In the state statute's most recent detailed full-year report, 164 animal-cruelty offenses were reported in 2024 - a 36.7 percent increase from 2023. Approximately 61 percent involved simple or gross neglect, while nearly 38 percent involved intentional abuse or torture.

As Bikers Against Animal Cruelty enters its 20th year, we are more focused and dedicated than ever. We remain committed to raising awareness of animal cruelty, promoting responsible pet ownership, and helping Connecticut's shelters and rescue organizations whenever we can. We plan on holding more rides and events, and attending events whenever possible. We are a small but mighty organization – similar to how we began in 2007.

Our mission includes helping defray the cost of emergency medical care for ownerless domestic animals who have suffered cruelty and abuse. We also provide a low-cost spay and neuter program for low-income Connecticut families, helping them care responsibly for their pets while working to prevent further pet overpopulation.

We cannot do this alone. Community support is more important than ever, but helping does not require becoming a member of Bikers Against Animal Cruelty. Every donation, volunteer hour, foster home, shared message, or act of support for a local rescue or shelter helps ease an enormous burden. Whatever you are able to do can make a meaningful difference.

Many of our members also devote their time and energy to animal welfare outside our organization and serve in many different capacities throughout their communities.

We may come from different backgrounds and hold different personal beliefs, but within Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, we are united by one mission: Helping domestically abused animals get urgent medical care and giving a voice to those who cannot speak for themselves.

I am truly honored to work alongside the dedicated people within our organization, as well as the outstanding animal advocates and animal control officers throughout Connecticut. Every one of our members plays a vital role in keeping Bikers Against Animal Cruelty moving forward, and I am deeply grateful for their commitment.

As we look ahead to 2027, we are eager to get back out into our communities, work harder than ever to raise awareness and support, and promote the mission that unites all of us.

Jennifer
President, Bikers Against Animal Cruelty

Sources for statistics
1. Connecticut DESPP First Quarter 2026 Crime Report
2. Connecticut DESPP 2024 Annual Crime Report

A Message From Sandy Paws Rescue, Inc.

We are seeing far too many incidents on social media lately involving newly adopted dogs. Dogs bolting and getting lost, getting injured, or snapping and biting out of sheer fear and overwhelm. It is tragic, dangerous, and completely preventable.

Stop taking your newly adopted dogs everywhere the second you bring them home.

No trips to the groomer. No dog parks. No crowded outdoor patios. No home improvement stores. And stop inviting half the neighborhood over to meet them on day two.

Decompression is NOT optional. It is imperative to your dog's long-term success.

Here is the reality check: *Your new dog does not know you yet*. Their entire life was just upended. They don't know your home, they don't know your schedule, and they don't know if they can trust you yet. Dragging an overwhelmed dog into public spaces, exposing them to unfamiliar triggers, and crowding them with strangers before they even know where they sleep is a fast track to panic, escape attempts, and reactivity. When Sandy Paws Rescue sends you home with extensive information on decompression and how to handle those critical first few weeks, and we guarantee every other reputable rescue out there is asking you to do the exact same thing, *it is not for fun*. We aren't sending homework just to hear ourselves talk. We send it because following those guidelines is literally the difference between a dog settling in safely or completely spiraling.

Slow Down. Just let them chill.

Keep their world small. Give them a quiet, safe routine. Let them learn who you are in a low-stress environment before you try to show them off to the world. The brewery patios, groomers, and public outings can wait. Your dog's mental health and physical safety cannot.

Respect the Process.

Follow the guidance you were given. Give your rescue dog the quiet time they actually need to succeed.

"Dogs have a way of finding people who need them."

SANDY PAWS RESCUE

Massachusetts | Lic. 0272
501(c)(3) foster-based rescue
adopt@sandypawsrescue.com
www.sandypawsmv.com
#SandyPawsRescue

WINTER PROTECTION

Pets can suffer frostbite (ears, nose, paws, tail), hypothermia, chapped skin, and chemical burns from ice melt or salt. Even thick-coated breeds are vulnerable if exposed for long periods, and small, elderly, or short-haired pets are more at risk.

Practical Protection Tips

Limit Cold Exposure

- If it's too cold for you, it's too cold for them — keep pets indoors when temperatures are below freezing.
- Use short, frequent walks instead of long outings in extreme cold.
- Avoid leaving pets in cars; vehicles trap cold air and can cause rapid freezing.

Keep Pets Warm

- Coats, jackets, or sweaters for short-haired or cold-sensitive breeds; choose ones that cover chest and back but allow movement.
- High-collar designs help protect the belly and chest.
- Create a warm, draft-free sleeping spot with blankets away from cold floors.

Protect Paws and Skin

- Apply vet-approved paw balm or petroleum jelly before walks to shield from salt and chemicals.
- Use pet-safe booties for extra coverage and traction.
- Rinse and dry paws after walks; check for cracks, redness, or ice between toes.
- Avoid shaving pets' coats in winter; trim long hair to reduce ice/salt buildup.

Prevent Chemical Hazards

- Choose pet-safe ice melts (propylene glycol) instead of ethylene glycol.
- Clean up antifreeze spills immediately; store chemicals securely.

Monitor for Cold-Related Illness

- Frostbite signs: shivering, skin discoloration, swelling, pain.
- Hypothermia signs: shivering, weakness, pale/cool skin, lethargy, slow breathing.
- Bring pets indoors immediately, warm affected areas with warm (not hot) water, and seek vet care if symptoms persist.

Extra Care

- Towel-dry pets after coming inside to prevent skin dryness.
- Increase food slightly and ensure fresh water in winter to support warmth and hydration.
- Keep pets microchipped and ID-tagged to prevent loss in snowy conditions.

Bottom line:

- In Connecticut's winter, combine indoor time, proper gear, paw protection, and vigilance for cold stress to keep pets safe and comfortable. Shorten walks, play inside, and stay warm!

Sources: ASPCA, American Animal Hospital Association, HART for Animals

B.A.A.C. NEWS!

All pets deserve a home, but not all homes deserve a pet.

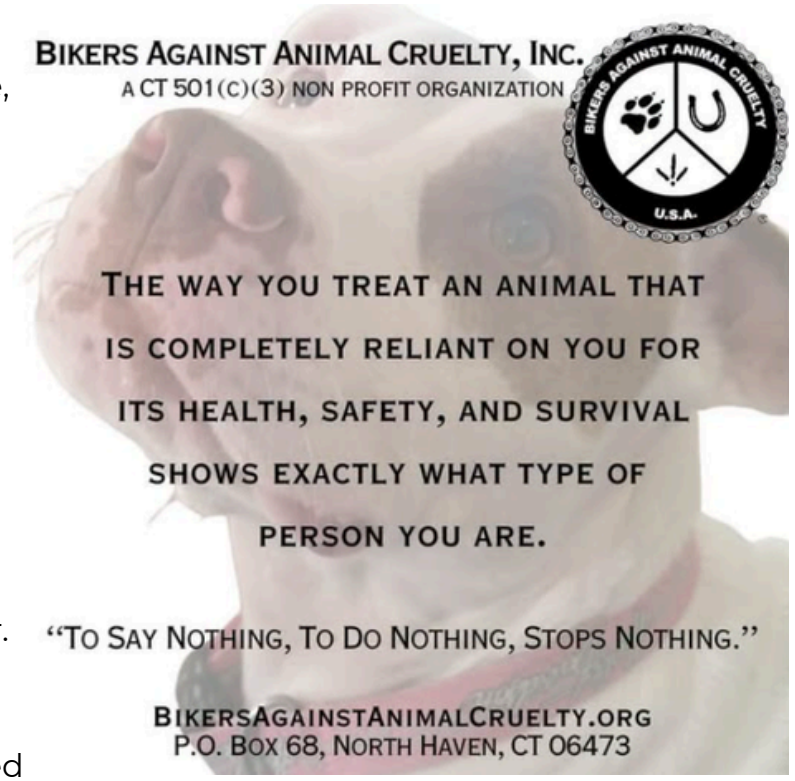
Harsh, but very true. Owning a pet is a big responsibility that requires commitment, time, money, patience, and love.

A pet's lifetime can be 8 to 15 years or more.

A poor or rushed decision can ruin a pet's life. Rehoming a pet takes an emotional toll. They lose everything they know to be "home" and "family". It is devastating, and some never recover; it can cause depression, behavior problems and worse. Don't take getting a pet lightly; know all that the pet will need. Weigh your options, and most of all, know what you can and cannot handle.

Studies have proven that cats and dogs have the emotional intelligence of a human toddler. If you have been a pet parent, you are well aware of this.

Make the responsible long-term decision based on what the pet needs and what you can provide.



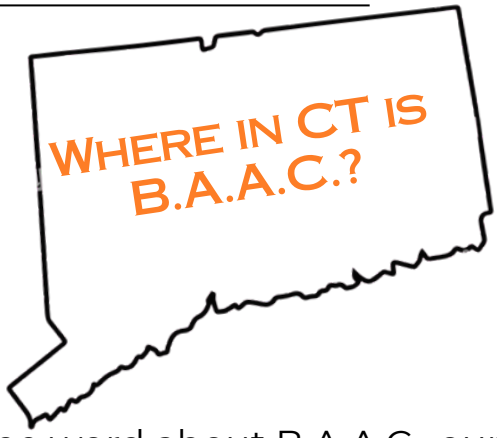
MEMBERS OF THE QUARTER

We normally like to highlight a B.A.A.C. member whom we feel has gone "above and beyond". This quarter, we want to thank **ALL** of our members who have gone way above and beyond over this last year.

Members show up for animals every day, allowing B.A.A.C. to provide funding for veterinary care for the ownerless domestic victims of cruelty and neglect, deliver thousands of pounds of food supplies to shelters and rescues, and provide education and resources for pet owners and those who want to help fight ongoing issues critical to animal welfare.

The world definitely feels heavy these days – but our members still show up, roll up their sleeves, dig their heels in and continue to fulfill our mission, making things a bit brighter.

2026 EVENTS



As we move to the colder months, our outdoor fundraisers lessen and we move toward online and indoor fundraisers. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and our Webpage for exciting indoor event announcements!

As always, we would be grateful if you would spread the word about B.A.A.C., our mission, events and fundraisers and encourage your friends and family to support us! The more support we have, the greater the impact we can make, and that means the more animals that get help!

OUR MOTTO

"To Say Nothing, To Do Nothing, Stops Nothing."

OUR MISSION

Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc (B.A.A.C.) is an organized group of compassionate motorcycle enthusiasts who advocate against domestic animal cruelty and neglect, promote responsible pet ownership and help to defray costs of emergency veterinary care for the voiceless and owner less victims of domestic animal cruelty and neglect.

OUR VISION

To encourage a world where animals are treated with respect and dignity.

OUR CORE VALUES

We do what we can to aid and advocate for animals in need with trust, integrity, honesty, respect, simplicity, and synergy.

Help Us, Help Them!
We can't do it without you! Please support your local animal welfare and animal rescue groups.

CT ANIMAL CRUELTY LAW [CGS §53-247]

A specific cold-weather shelter rule applies to domestic pets in winter, with enforcement by animal control and the State Veterinarian.

- **Cold-Weather Shelter Rule (CGS §22-350a)**: When a National Weather Service weather advisory or warning is issued, or when conditions (cold, wind, snow, hail, etc.) pose an adverse risk to a dog's health based on breed, size, age, coat, or condition, you may not tether a dog outdoors for more than 15 minutes and must provide adequate shelter for more than 15 minutes. This applies regardless of temperature.

- **Enforcement**: Municipal or regional animal control officers and the State Veterinarian can investigate, seize neglected or cruelly treated animals, and issue citations.

- **Protection**: Even without tethering, you must protect pets from extreme cold, wind, or other hazards. This includes providing warm, dry shelter and adequate bedding or insulation.

Reporting Animal Cruelty & Cold Weather Violations in Connecticut:

- In Connecticut, cold-weather neglect of a pet can be reported as animal cruelty under §53-247 and related statutes, and you must contact your local animal control officer (ACO) to trigger an investigation.

How to Report:

- Your local municipal animal control department (often through the town's police or animal control office) is the only law enforcement entity with jurisdiction to investigate and enforce cruelty laws.
- If the incident is at a business: Call State Animal Control at 860-713-2506.

What to provide:

- Your name, address, and phone number. (You must be an eyewitness; ACOs will not act on hearsay).
- Perpetrator details (name, address, phone, description, vehicle, employer, associates).
- Detailed description of the incident, animal's condition, and any evidence (photos/video if safe).
- Date, time, and exact location

The more detail, the more proof, the better!

CT ANIMAL CRUELTY LAW [CGS §53-247]

Safety:

- Do not enter private property without permission or put yourself in danger

Legal Basis:

- §53-247 – General animal cruelty statute (includes failure to provide shelter from weather).
- §22-350a – Dog tethering and shelter rule during adverse weather
- §22-329b – Requires ACOs to report suspected cruelty/neglect to the Commissioner of Agriculture within 48 hours

Practical Tips:

- Act quickly: Report as soon as possible; ACOs have a 48-hour reporting deadline for suspected cruelty.
- Document everything: Photos, videos, and witness statements strengthen your report.
- Know the signs: Look for shivering, lethargy, frostbite, or other distress.
- Stay safe: Do not approach unfamiliar or injured animals without guidance

Our **Contact Us** page has further details and contacts for reporting in Connecticut.

Remember:

Pets are fully reliant on their owners; they trust wholeheartedly that they will be fed, sheltered, kept safe, away from danger, and loved. They trust unconditionally and are devoted to their owners.

Putting your pet in dangerous situations is irresponsible. While these situations may not stem from malicious intent, they can still be considered cruelty. Examples include walking your pet without protection from frostbite or chemicals, driving without securing them, hiking beyond their age or ability, exposing them to loud sounds despite sensitive hearing, failing to provide food as they become emaciated, or forcing them into a situation despite visible fear.

As the owner, you have the ability to think critically and must take a moment to make the best decisions for your pet. Pets can't communicate their pain, ask for help, or refuse as we can. They depend entirely on you. Apply your judgment and act responsibly. Consider their well-being first.

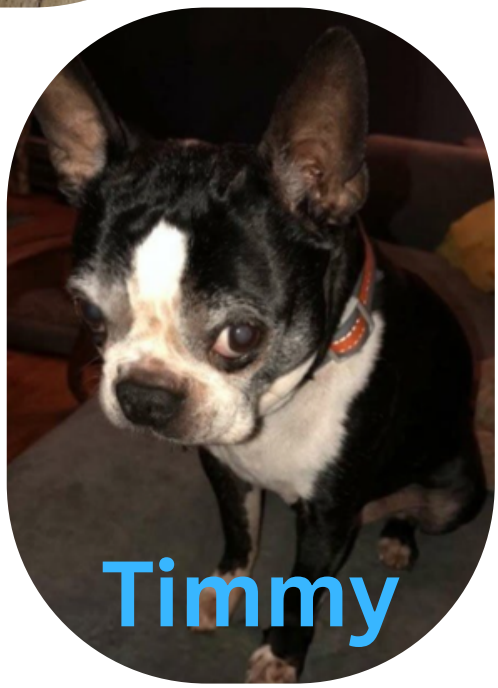
If you wouldn't want it done to you, don't do it to them!



IN MEMORIAM







"If it should be that I grow weak and pain should keep me from my sleep then you must do what must be done, for this last battle can't be won. You will be sad, I understand, but don't let grief then stay your hand. For this day more than all the rest, your love for me must stand the test. We've had so many happy years what is to come can hold no fears. You don't want me to suffer so, the time has come please let me go. Take me where my needs they'll tend, but please stay with me till the end. To hold me close and speak to me, until my eyes no longer see."

~ Final Journey, LLC - an in-home pet euthanasia service

3RD QUARTER CASES

Thanks to our supporters who have donated and attended our recent fundraisers, because of you, B.A.A.C. was able to help offset the medical care for the victims listed below. B.A.A.C. sends donations directly to the treating medical facility to ensure the funds reach exactly who they are intended for. We never give donations to rescues, organizations, or individuals.

This quarter, B.A.A.C. donated over $3k to the respective treating veterinary clinics to help these victims. Many of these animals suffered more than we can imagine at the hands of humans. Their stories are deeply moving and hard to imagine.

We are grateful to the rescue organizations that step up to help these animals. For giving them care, love, and, most importantly, a well-deserved second chance at life. These animals can now close their eyes to sleep in a safe place, with a full belly, a happy heart, and without fear. That is priceless and a life that all animals should always have. Please support these angels on earth by volunteering, donating needed items, or following them on social media. Simply sharing their posts about their needs can make a difference!

- Stratford Animal Rescue Society
- Humane Society of Connecticut
- East Hartford Animal Control
- Furever Cat Angels
- Army's Legacy Animal Rescue and Sanctuary

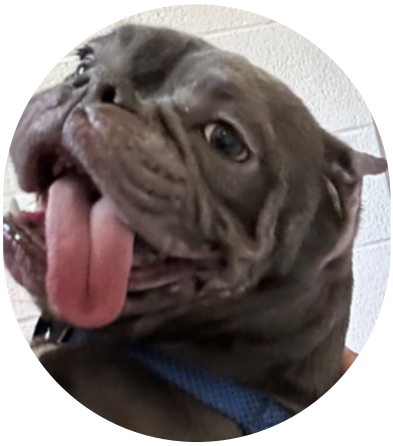












TRAINER'S CORNER

Why Is My Dog Doing This????

Maybe you're a new dog owner and maybe you're not. You just adopted a new puppy, dog or, maybe just purchased one of those new designer breeds. This is going to be the best dog ever!

Things are going really good at first. The puppy may be doing everything "right" in the beginning; easy to potty train, easy to train, "loves everybody" and easily manipulated to be picked up, follows you everywhere etc. The newly adopted 2-year-old dog can sit, stay, lay down, is quiet, "loves dogs and people", and just overall seemingly always listens.

Then it happens. Your once puppy is biting more, chasing more, barking and growling, biting or nipping at people entering the home, chasing and nipping the kids, grabbing clothes and shaking its head, not listening anymore, digging, chasing small animals etc.

What happened?

Although we may see many common behaviors in any dog, many behaviors can be coded in their DNA. For example, a terrier may be genetically wired to dig to find small animals. Hunting dogs such as retrievers have been selected and bred for retrieving so we may see more "mouthy" traits. Guardian type dogs have been selected and bred for protection therefore they may have more anti-social behaviors and more likely to be aloof to new people. They may no longer want to be picked up or told what to do- they make their own decisions now! Oh, and that cute low riding Corgi that is chasing and nipping ankles, guess what they have been selected and bred for?

Before you say your dog is "bad" or not listening, they may be listening to their powerful DNA. Be mindful of the breed you intentionally purchase. Adopted dogs present a surprise but understand some of their behaviors may be genetic. Need help with your dog's behaviors?

Reach out.

Jen Zatorowski, UW-AAB. CPDT-KA, Certified Mantrailing Global Instructor,
From Their Perspective, LLC. Animal Training and Behavior Consulting.
fromtheirperspective@hotmail.com

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Joe - Treasurer.....Treasurer@bikersagainstanimalcruelty.org
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REPORT CRUELTY/NEGLECT:

Dog Fighting Humane Society of the U.S.....animalfighting@HSUS.org
(Reward of up to $5,000.00 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a dog fighter.)
Puppy Mills Humane Society of the U.S.....1-877-MILL-TIP
or www.humaneworld.org/en/forms/report-puppy-mill
Animal Cruelty on TV or Film.....323-210-2233
or email AFTV@peta.org.
Domestic abuse/neglect (We Tip Hotline)..... 1-800-78-CRIME

For immediate help: **Dial 911** and/or your local law enforcement, Animal Control Officer, Humane Society, CT Court Appointed Animal Advocates, Department of Agriculture (for Connecticut). If these fail, go to your local media outlet and blast the information, put the pressure on, save a life! Do not give up!

Complete the 'Suspected Animal Abuse' form at ct.gov - Dept of Agriculture - Report Animal Abuse and email to **agr.animalcontrol@ct.gov**

Know the laws in your State, sadly, what is seen as cruel to some isn't always against the law. That distinction is vast. Therefore, document ALL details of a possible case, these details can be a very powerful too in proving cruelty, neglect, and abuse and can be a great asset in the prosecution of an animal abuser.

RESOURCES:

If you suspect your pet may have come in contact with or ingested a potentially poisonous substance, immediately contact your local veterinarian or the

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center: (888) 426-4435 or (855) 764-7661 - *fees apply in order to fund call centers.*

Association for Pet Loss and Bereavement: https://www.aplb.org, local groups available at 211.org or dial 211.

Animal Cruelty Free Product lists: CrueltyFreeKitty.com, Ethicalelephant.com, LeapingBunny.org and ASPCA.org.

VISIT OUR ONLINE STORE







Help us support the mission we hold so close to our heart....

Make A Donation

We are always in need of donations:

Cleaning supplies, pet food, pet toys, blankets, towels, litter, beds, pet toys, leashes/collars, and anything else that can improve the lives of shelter pets!

Bring your donations to any of our events, or reach out using the contact info above. Or reach out directly to your local animal shelter and volunteer or donate!

Join Our Team

Interested in becoming a member?

Visit our website for an application, meet us at an event or 'contact us'. We have riding members and non-riding members. Members help at events, attend fundraisers, court hearings, fundraise and spread awareness and education. We have many different areas of interest such as Public Relations, Education, Merchandise, and more!

WILL YOU HELP US HELP THEM?

By making financial contributions towards urgent medical care B.A.A.C. has been able to help hundreds of animals across the United States who came to harm at the hands of human. But we can't do it without your support.

We offer Five ways you can help us help them:

1. ONLINE DONATIONS

Visit us at www.bikersagainstanimalcruelty.org

2. CHECK DONATIONS:

Checks Payable to B.A.A.C. or Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc.
Mail To: Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, Inc., PO Box 68, North Haven, CT 06478

3. CREDIT CARD DONATIONS:

Complete the following information and mail this form.

Name: _____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

CC#:_____ Exp:_____

Code: _____ Signature: _____

4. IN PERSON:

Visit us at an event! We post on Facebook the events we host and attend throughout the year.

5. ONLINE STORE

Purchase B.A.A.C. Merchandise on our website for yourself or as a gift!

We thank everyone for their amazing support, without your compassion for these vulnerable souls, we would not be able to help these victims.

~ B.A.A.C. is a licensed 501(c)(3) non-profit -monetary donations are tax deductible ~

Thank you for your support!
Together we will do great things for the voiceless