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# The Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare

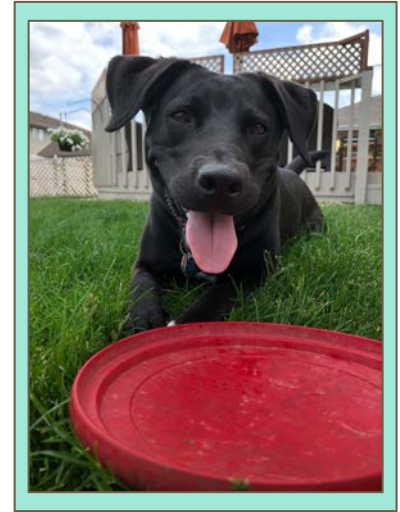
— HSVMA Open House 2021 —

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# What are the five freedoms?

The five freedoms are a set of standards used worldwide to ensure the humane treatment of animals.



These standards make it possible to always meet the mental and physical needs of our companion animals.

**1. Freedom from hunger and thirst.**

Animals need access to fresh water and a proper diet to promote their physical strength and health.

Each diet should be prepared specific to the animal.

For example, a puppy needs a different diet than an adult cat or a cow.

Beau laying with his plate of **food** and tin bowl of **water!**



Todderson with his **water fountain**, dry and soft **food!**



Cooper is happily showing off his **food** and gravity **water dish!**

## **2. Freedom from discomfort.**



Photo of Eleanor by  
Casey Boyer



Photo of Sherman by  
Casey Boyer



Photo of Ra and Kiara taken by Casey Boyer  
in December 2018 in Burlington, NC

Our pets need an environment that provides shelter and an area to comfortably rest.

Important parts of their environment include the temperature, noise level, and amount of natural light.

If they live outside, they should have protection from the elements and constant access to food and water.

# **3. Freedom from pain, injury, and disease.**



# Every animal should be given qualified veterinary care!

Preventing pain, injury, or disease is important for every animal.



Photo by Kristyn Cunningham



Photo by Casey Boyer

Prevention includes providing safe enclosures, clean and sanitized habitats, and regular wellness checks.

Any sign of pain, injury, or disease should be diagnosed and treated quickly.



**4. Freedom to express normal and natural behavior.**

Each animal needs enough space to perform their natural behaviors like scratching, stretching, and jumping.

This includes the freedom to interact with other animals!



*Winston may not be the most "naturally behaving" dog, but here he is in his element!*

If an animal is not granted these opportunities, they may be stressed and suffer emotionally or physically.



Photos by Winston's mom:  
Katie Schrader

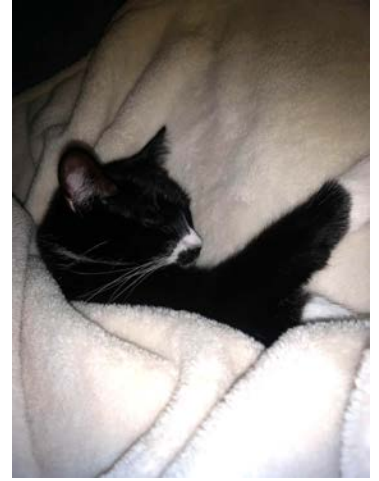


## **5. Freedom from fear and distress.**

# Every animal needs to feel safe to be happy! That means that animals should:

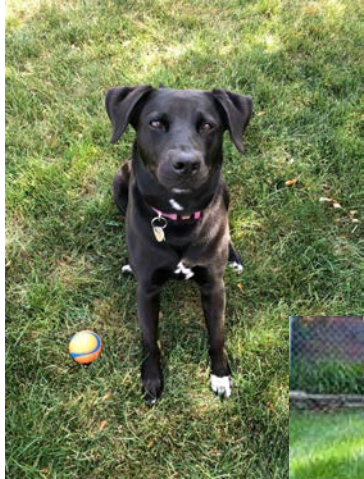


- Live in a safe home
- Live in a clean environment
- Have plenty of toys
- Have lots of hiding places



Photos of  
Smudge and  
Missy by  
Rachel Conte

# What is HSVMA?



Picture by Emma Przekwas



Picture by Kristyn Cunningham



Picture by Casey Boyer

The Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMA) is an organization for veterinary professionals to engage in direct care programs for animals in need and educate the public about animal welfare issues.

## THE HSVMA MISSION

To protect and advocate for animals while providing leadership and service opportunities that support a humane veterinary profession.



# Thank you for participating in the University of Illinois CVM 2021 Open House!



Pictures by Emma Przekwas, Casey Boyer, Kristyn Cunningham, and Megan Draegert

# Sources

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