



CITY OF WACO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**New SpayStreet Waco to Help Citizens Comply with Law,
Reduce Number of Homeless Dogs and Cats in Waco**

Waco, Texas (April 22, 2014) – The City of Waco's Animal Control Services is proud to announce a new volunteer effort called SpayStreet Waco. Volunteers from the community are partnering with Animal Control and the Animal Shelter to spread the word about the Spay/Neuter and Microchip law that went into effect January 1, 2014. There are numerous outreach efforts being planned focusing on neighborhoods in Waco with growing stray animal populations. Outreach efforts include educating citizens on free and low-cost spay/neuter and microchip options available to them to keep their pets in compliance with the law. The effort also addresses strays in our community, and volunteers will assist in getting homeless dogs and cats spayed or neutered and adopted into good homes.

“The goal of SpayStreet Waco is to reduce the Animal Shelter intake and the epidemic of unwanted pets by focusing on spay/neuter, microchips and teaching pet care,” said Wiley Stem, Assistant City Manager. “To that end, we're undertaking creative collaborative efforts between the Humane Society of Central Texas, our animal rescue group partners and the City, and we are anticipating an even larger reduction based on this new program.”

Research has proven that a spayed or neutered pet lives a healthier life and is less likely to roam, resulting in a reduced shelter population. Waco's success depends on the community and its volunteers! Citizens who are interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact SpayStreet Waco: through its Hotline at (254) 752-SPAY (7729) and choose option 1; contact the program through Facebook; or visit SpayStreetWaco.com.

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