



Need help with your pet skunk??

Skunk Haven is here to serve.

Skunk Haven Skunk Rescue, Shelter and Education, Inc.
www.skunkhaven.net

The **Skunk Haven Skunk Rescue, Shelter and Education Inc.** is dedicated to assisting skunks and skunk owners. Please call Deborah for vital, **free** information on skunk care. We have a skunk shelter taking in unwanted domestic pet skunks. **BY READING AND FOLLOWING THIS BROCHURE YOU CAN PREVENT YOUR SKUNK FROM ANY ILLNESS/DEATH IN THE FUTURE.**

- What to feed your skunk and what NOT to feed your skunk...
- What to do to skunk-proof your home and how your skunk will defeat you...
- What to expect from your skunk and what your skunk expects from you...
- What to do...Who to call...We also have baby sitting service...
- Need to give up your skunk?? We will take your skunk in.

With contacts in many states, many with multiple skunks, several with over 26 years' experience in raising skunks, **SkunkHaven** can provide the guidance and assistance you need to have a happy, loving relationship with your new pet. We can also help you find veterinary care, or a skunk sitter. Join us at SKUNKFEST held in North Ridgeville, the second Saturday in September.

If you have questions, problems, emergencies, or just need to know why your skunk is "doing that", send us an email, or give us a call (**you don't have to be a member**): Join us>www.facebook.com/groups/SkunkHaven/

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Interested in becoming a member? Contact **SkunkHaven Inc.** for a membership application. For only a \$15 annual donation you will be included in Skunky Happenings. All money goes towards helping skunks. **We are 501(3)c non-profit - Website: www.skunkhaven.net** Join us for talks on skunks - go to our **FACEBOOK PAGE for SKUNK HAVEN**

Don't lose your receipt from the breeder or pet store; it is illegal to take a skunk from the wild and your original receipt is the ONLY proof that will be accepted by the Division of Wildlife. Contact your state Wildlife Dept. to see if skunks are legal to own as pets in your state before you buy. Please obtain the proper permit in the state you live in. Not all states allow importation of skunks from another state. There are states where you MUST buy your skunk from a breeder only in your state or you won't be able to get your permit. If you have an illegal skunk in your possession, it can be confiscated and put to death. It's also illegal to re-sell your skunk. A paper trail is a must for pet skunks. No paper trail and the skunk can be confiscated and killed.

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NOTE: Please do not ever tell people on the internet if your skunk is biting. You do not know who can be in a group and your skunk can be turned in to be killed.

BRINGING HOME YOUR NEW SKUNK KIT and CARE INFO~

WARNING: From the Skunk Haven President:

I can not stress how important it is to read this brochure. Too many times people think that a seizure or rectal prolapse will not happen to them. Most often the skunk dies. Please take the time to read this brochure. Especially about diet and worming your new skunk. Don't be one of those who will say, "I should have read and did what the brochure suggested". Or "I did not think this would happen to me" Your skunk's life depends on YOU!



NOTE: There may be repeat statements in this brochure. This is to make you aware of life-threatening issues that can happen. We try to prevent your baby from dying.

"Although some websites say skunks live to 15-22 years. That is not a true statement. Skunks' lifespan is 6-10 years. Please notice any slight behavior difference in your skunk. It could be early warning signs of an illness (not eating, sleeping in different area's etc.)"

Use common sense - this advice should be used as a guide only. Skunk Haven is not responsible for problems with skunks.
>No part of this pamphlet can be used without permission< www.skunkhaven.net **Keep Deb's phone number handy 216-210-3280.**
Join us on Facebook to learn more about skunks www.facebook.com/groups/SkunkHaven/

Skunk-Proof Your Home - Consider your new kit a toddler in your home.

- * Beware of poisonous products that you may have stored. Install baby latches on kitchen and bathroom cabinets and drawers.
 - * Get on your knees and look around the rooms in your home at the eye level of a skunk kit. Make sure there is no escape holes or dangerous places for them to crawl into.
 - * Block the areas behind the refrigerator, washer, dryer and/or stove. Some larger skunks can even open refrigerator doors. Secure floor heating vents because a skunk may pull them up and get into ductwork. They can pry off dryer vents and escape.
 - * Put trash cans away behind locked doors or up on stands or counters.
 - * Block fireplaces and electrical cords and remember that some will chew up wallpaper and dig at the carpet.
 - * Secure box springs: either nail ply-board underneath or block off access to bed so that skunk will not get up into the box spring. Couches: nail ply-board underneath or take legs off.
 - * Store food for other pets so that they are not accessible to the skunk.
- Do not free feed other pets in the home around your skunk. Keep other pet's food where your skunk cannot get to it.**
- * Remember that skunks are explorers and can climb. Falls from beds and living room furniture can result in injury to the back or broken bones. Recliners are also dangerous. Don't recline until you are sure your skunk isn't underneath or inside a recliner! **SKUNKS HAVE DIED BY RECLINERS!** Stairs can also be dangerous and fall off over hangs.
 - * Skunks have been known to tear screens from doors and windows and escape. **Never** leave a skunk in a room with an open window. Be sure your outside doors are closed tightly, and your family knows that it is a must to keep them closed. Skunks often have a fascination with what's on the other side of a door and once they get outside, you may never find them again. **No Doggie doors!** All the Doggie doors should be blocked by nailing a wood plank to them.

WARNING: Domestic skunks are NOT hardy animals like a cat, dog or ferret. They take more care and can get sick/die very fast if they don't have proper care.

Skunks are NOT for everyone. They require lots of Attention, Time, Patience, and Love. Baby skunks must be held often so that they will have good temperament as adults. "Please be advised that there is **no guarantee** that holding your baby a lot when they are young will result in an adult that will be a cuddly lap skunk. You have to change your lifestyle the way your skunks want you to.

You Must Find a Vet willing to care for your skunk. Not all vets are willing to treat domestic skunks. Emergencies come about quickly so always have your vet's phone number handy. **If you do Not have a Vet to care for your skunk then do not get a skunk. Don't say you have not been warned. Ask the vet what he will do if your skunk bites him. If he says "report it" Don't go to him, find another vet.** You can tell the vet to go to the Skunk haven website under vet pages so he can learn to treat skunks.

First Aid Kit: Karo syrup, thermometer, 3- or 10- ml syringes for administering medications, activated charcoal, Amish Origins, Children's Benadryl, Pedialyte, activated charcoal, if poison is ingested, have K1 available, Rescue Remedy cream and liquid, styptic powder, KY Jelly, Preparation-H, rubber glove, sugar, Kaopectate, wormer, toenail clippers, Vaseline. Amish Origins, Flu fighter, Preparation H, KY Jelly, Panolog (get from vets for Rectal Prolapse), Karo syrup (for seizures), thermometer, styptic powder, antibiotic ointment, Gatorade, Rescue Remedy (cream and liquid), udder cream or bag balm for pads of feet.

Bonding - It is extremely important to spend as much time as you can with the baby. The more you hold it and talk to it, the better. Rub its' teeth and mouth to make future oral exams easier. Play with its' feet to help make future nail clipping easier. Give them a shirt with your scent to snuggle with. Make sure there are no buttons. Put them in your shirt to carry around, make sure shirt is tucked in.

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People in NJ please contact Sherry DeMarchi if help is needed. 732-425-3048





Housing - In the beginning you can put your new arrival in a bathroom or large rabbit cage (with solid bottom NO wired bottom) with litter boxes, blankets, cat bed, water bowl and toys. Make sure he cannot escape thru any openings. Slowly introduce your skunk to the rest of your home. If you have any other pets, **never leave them alone with your skunk** until you are sure your skunk baby will not be harmed or killed. **Skunks are like cats and should NOT to be caged as they get older. They need to be able to roam the house or at least a few rooms. They love cat cubes, teepees, something to hide in. Do not use any type of shavings for bedding, this can cause respiratory issues.** Skunks cannot jump like a cat or dog, but they can sometimes climb. Fractures and internal injuries can easily occur if a skunk falls. Put ramps up for easy access on furniture/beds.

Picking up your pet skunk: NEVER pick up your skunk by the tail. By doing so, you can damage the spine or have other issues. Pick up your pet by sliding one hand under the tummy and the other to support the butt. Sometimes your skunk will lay flat, that means it's ok to pick up your pet or it can also be a sign of tummy problem.

Digging: If they are digging into carpeting, try saturating the area with Nature's Miracle or white vinegar. Typically, there is an underlying reason for them to be digging in one particular spot, unless it's the corner of the doorway. Do not declaw them! This is like amputating the first part of each of your fingers to get rid of the fingernail.

Feeding (5 weeks old) – If the teeth are not well established, you can bottle feed your baby a mixture of canned goat's milk diluted with water you can mix with dry baby cereal. We use fresh goats milk not diluted you can buy at Wal-Mart. **WARNING: If your baby is not eating you have to bottle feed or syringe feed.** I also add one drop of Pet Tonic to one feeding per day and Colostrum. *Be sure to dilute the canned goat's milk to avoid diarrhea.* If using fresh **no** need to dilute. Goat's milk can be bought at most grocery stores in the dairy section or the canned milk section. **WARNING:** You should feed your baby two meals and **five/six SNACKS** a day up to 5 months then slowly decrease feedings to twice a day by a year old. **Frequent small SNACKS is to prevent seizures.** Younger babies need small feedings at least every two/three hours. If your skunk is shaking, feed and give comfort. After around 6-7 weeks, slowly try introducing vegetables cut up fine, cooked chicken, dry natural dog food, small amounts of yogurt, cottage cheese, Cheerio's, and other grains. If it is reluctant to eat the solids, soak in diluted goat milk. **Skunks need PROTEIN!**

Skunks need calcium (human grade with D3 to promote calcium absorption, Rep-cal in pink jar) and need taurine. > Call Brian 402-307-0221 to order Dyna taurine. In addition, try giving a vitamin (Nu-Cat, Missing Link or another quality vitamin). If you have **Multiple skunks feed in separate areas. WARNING: If your baby is not eating you have to bottle feed or syringe feed ~ do NOT let your baby go without eating. Do NOT let your baby sleep thru feeding times. WAKE THEM UP TO EAT~~~** Always monitor the stool: it should be firm, not runny.

As An Adult >**Warning: If you feed your skunk just veggies, chicken, then your skunk may have poor bone density in the future and will not walk. There is not enough calcium in the human foods we feed our skunk. You must add extra calcium**

Prepare fresh foods daily! Skunks have very sensitive digestive systems and cannot properly digest processed foods, such as hot dogs, pies, sweets etc. **To get your skunk to eat you can add on top of food> Extra virgin olive oil, Ranch Dressing, I Can't Believe It's Not Butter Spray. WARNING: If you have other animals you cannot FREE FEED them. Put the food up or feed in another room. Skunks can eat until they die.**

Sample Diet for adults: Vegetables may be fresh or thawed frozen. (No canned vegetables, due to the high sodium content). Cooked chicken, turkey, fish, eggs, cheese, Bugs, meal worms, pinkies, yogurt with no aspartame (Nutra-Sweet), and fruits (two or three times a week). Skunks can NOT eat just veggies. Please use common sense and feed a well-balanced diet.

Kibbles of an all-natural dog food can also be given with the veggies. Virgin olive oil, flax seed oil, and/or Best Coat from Halo can be added. You can also give a few drops of organic apple cider vinegar. Cheerios, grains, fiber, carbohydrates should be added. NO chocolate, NO fried foods, NO hot-dogs or processed lunch meat, and NO fatty foods. High fat or high protein diets make a skunk fat and lazy. **NOTE:** Some vegetables, like Asparagus, have been known to cause seizures in skunks. Birdseed can impact a skunk. Adults should be fed twice a day. **Note: if your skunk stopped eating then give him ANYTHING he will eat to get him over what is wrong. Including cat food!**

Call for help! Have fresh water available for skunks at all times, although skunks do NOT drink much. IF your skunk starts drinking a lot of water, see a vet. Typically, they should get most of their water requirement from vegetables and cooked grains in their normal diet. You can mist the food with water before feeding if you do not think your skunk is not getting enough water. See more on diet on their pages.

WARNING: Skunks need extra Taurine (250mg -500mg per day) and Calcium with D3. Try to use some foods that provide calcium and use supplements. This is in ADDITION to the food diet. The Skunkie Delight and other diets **do not** have enough calcium. Many skunks lose bone mass and develop deformities. We use Rep-Cal with D3 as our calcium supplement and liquid Taurine (<http://www.harlmen.com/DynaTaurine.asp>) call Brian 402-307-0221.



A MUST DO: Worming, Seizures, Fecal Testing - Have a fecal test done as soon as possible! Make sure young kits are checked for **coccidia** and other protozoa as well as parasites. **Coccidiosis** has been the cause of several deaths of skunk kits in recent years.

WORMING YOUR SKUNK

These are suggestions from Deb at Skunk Haven:

It is common for skunks to test **NEGATIVE** for roundworms even if they have worms. Worming is always recommended. Follow the label directions on the wormer for proper dosage and treatment regimen. **One or two wormings will not rid the skunk of worms.** You can also buy effective wormers containing **pyrantel pamoate 4.54 mg Canine Anthelmintic Suspension**, (Google it) Some people use Nemex-2. You can buy from most pet supply stores. Do **NOT** use Eriworm or any product

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containing piperazine citrate. This has caused death in skunks. You can use a wormer recommended by a vet, such as Strongid. A good time to worm your pet is around the full moon. That is when the parasites detach themselves from the host to mate. *****Worm according to the box like a puppy. Every week for four weeks etc. ~ Read the box~**

***From Skunk Haven: What we have done is worm once a week for four weeks, next month we will wormed once every other week, then the third month we will worm once. So, in three months we have wormed the baby seven times. After that we may not worm but maybe every year or few years. All skunks are different.**

WARNING~ Baby skunks may have **seizures**. Use Karo syrup or pancake syrup. **Drip it in the corner of the mouth** to get the skunk out of the seizure. It's always a good idea to keep a syringe with syrup handy. It's a fast, easy way to put the syrup in the skunk's mouth. **Increase feedings to five to six times per day or give snacks!** The seizures could also be related to low calcium. Blood work must be done to see if this is the case. If the seizures are reoccurring or long lasting, contact your vet. If epilepsy is diagnosed, Phenobarbital can be prescribed.

Rectal Prolapse - Babies sometimes experience this (intestines come out of rectum). You can use KY jelly mixed with Preparation-H. Cut your nails and slowly push the prolapse back into the rectum. Another approach is to try coating the intestines with sugar after rinsing with warm water. This will shrink the intestines and they will go back inside. Prolapse could be a sign **of worms**, diarrhea or another problem. Stop feeding veggies and increase fiber, dog food or chicken for a few days and then go back to feeding regular diet. Consult your vet if the problem persists. **WORM your skunk!** Go to www.skunkhaven.net website for help.

Potty Training - Begin training your young skunk to use a litter box/pan as soon as it arrives. Skunks may use a corner or elsewhere. Notice the corners they want to use and place litter pans in those places; they may learn to go in the pan, not on the floor. To aid in training, cut puppy training pads into 2-inch squares and put in the litter box. Secure pan to the wall. You can use plain news paper in boxes. Pans used could be square or corner ferret pans, or a covered kitty pan with the opening cut low to the ground.

Please note that some skunks may only sometimes or never use a litter box. (NOTE: some skunks may eat the litter and have DIED!!!! To prevent this from happening, use flat News Paper) Skunks like clean boxes like us we flush after going to the bathroom, clean after the skunk goes potty. One skunk will need at least two litter boxes in every room they go into. They are NOT cats and will not go to one box.

Play Time and Behavior Management - Kits are full of energy and some may want to run and play all the time. Train your skunk to be up early during the day and sleep at night. Young kits can play very rough with other skunks their age and/or older ones. Older skunks may get irritated and may severely bite. They love to play bite but **don't encourage it**. As they grow, so do their teeth! Toes are a great attraction to chase around the house. **You may have to wear slippers or shoes if your skunk is a toe biter.** Train your skunk to know that biting is not something you will tolerate. Skunks enjoy playing with you and your other pets too. Pet skunks have unusual play - they run around then stop and stomp their front paws, they turn in almost a U-shape as if they are about to spray; some play hide and chase, all in good fun. It can be confusing for a new skunk owner to see a skunk standing in one place and stomping. It is typically a threat, but running toward, or away from and stomping is typically play behavior. Don't be threatened, the key is to treat every interaction as play (especially with yearling skunks). **BUT if someone new comes into the home this can be a form of FRIGHT and a skunk can be scared to death~**

Your new skunk will soon learn to understand your methods of play and your level of acceptance. - Options to consider for inappropriate behavior: A loud firm "No", then squirt with water, a loud firm stomp on the floor, applying Bitter Apple/Lime to your feet/hands to discourage your skunk from biting them. The best punishment is to put the skunk up for a short "time-out" (after being told "No"). We've found that a large plastic kitchen trash bin or plastic trash can works well. This also prevents negative association with the skunk's sleeping area or cage/carrier. Skunks are smart enough to associate being punished for doing something wrong. **Please note that some skunks bite for no reason when they are young and some do not grow out of it. Do not let people touch your skunk; if they bite someone they can be killed and be-headed to test for rabies. These are domestic captive bred skunks and do not have rabies but the public does not realize that.**

Biting: Skunks can be toe or heel nippers, especially when they are young. You can deter this by wearing shoes or slippers. Bitter Apple and other deterrent sprays may also be used; it is best to use a natural product. Some skunks will bite for no reason. A lot of skunks go through a biting stage. **NEVER PLAY BITE with them!** They will think this is normal and teeth get bigger. This is NOT related to whether or not a skunk is ready to be neutered. You must break them from biting or else it can get worse. Skunks have very sharp canine teeth. **Some skunks may never stop biting. If the bite is reported the skunk will normally be destroyed, so DO NOT let people PET your skunk. If you do, ALWAYS hold the head and let people touch the BACK only. Even if you tell people your skunk bit you, he still can be taken and killed to be tested for rabies.**

Do not de-fang & DO NOT DE-CLAW.

Never hit your skunk! Use the word "NO" when training. Skunks are very smart and will easily learn the right and wrong things to do. They will even purposely do 'wrong' in return for your mistreatment or neglect. - Try "Time Outs". We use a large garbage barrel that they cannot see out of to put the skunk in for time outs. Only leave in for a few minutes or so. Can increase time if not stopping. Do NOT use their sleeping quarters for this. You do not want them to associate their sleeping quarters with punishment. You can also try a squirt bottle with water. (But don't overdo.)



Spaying or neutering your skunk: Skunks only mate once a year starting in January to March. **Males and females may urinate/dribble/little puddles all over the floor until fixed.** Once you get your kit fixed this should soon stop. It is VERY IMPORTANT that you castrate or spay your skunk. This should be done between 5 to 6 months of age **depending on weight and health.** Failure to do so can cause behavior problems, be extremely stressful, and can cause health problems for the skunk. Do not castrate a male until after testicles show. (You will see pea-sized lumps

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under the skin). Some females may NOT come out of the heat cycle. Vets should use ISOFLORINE GAS when doing surgery. ***The day of surgery, you should feed your skunk a light breakfast at least four hours prior. One hour prior give some Karo syrup.*** If your vet has questions, please have him call Dr. Frank Krupka, 440-933-5297 (during normal business hours). Many skunks go through a biting stage but this does NOT mean they are ready/the right age to get "fixed". (See Biting paragraph.)

NOTE: some skunks will go thru the heat cycle BEFORE they are a year old, starting in October. Some may have a musky smell before they are neutered. WARNING: Some unfixed males may go into a trance and KILL the female. They will chew them to death. Get your animals castrated and spayed. WARNING do NOT use METACAM!! Metacam has been reported in many skunk deaths.

It's a good idea is to get your skunk's blood work done at the same time when you get your skunk spayed. The recommended tests are Complete Blood Count and Serum Chemistry Profile. This will provide you with a base line to go by with your skunk. A routine X-ray in later years is a good idea too. See www.skunkhaven.net for blood values to bring to your vet. Look on the VET pages. Or it's also listed in this brochure.

Leash training Some skunks may be leashed trained and some may not, **NEVER** leave your skunk outside unattended. They have no homing instincts like dogs or cats and will wander away; it is rare that they will come back before something bad happens. With no scent glands to protect themselves, they are very vulnerable to predators. Skunks can climb over fences and dig their way out under fences. Watch out for birds of prey that can swoop down and take your pet away. You can try cat figure 8 collars that clamp around the waist and neck. Never leave a collar on your pet this can cause a ring around the neck due to rub fur off and if get hung up on something, the skunk will be strangled. Try the leash and collar inside the home to see if they can escape out of it first. Rather be safe than sorry running after a skunk outside the home.

Bathing can be done occasionally. Use ferret shampoo, baby shampoo or a non-medicated dog shampoo if they have a musky smell. (NOTE: the smell should go away after spaying your skunk. If your skunk has a skunk spray smell then some of the oil might have gotten on the fur during descenting. OR some skunks may smell musky due to not being spayed/neutered, get them fixed!) **DO NOT use a pesticide shampoo unless for a flea shampoo!**

Fleas Advantage spray or drops for cats may be used on your skunk. If using drops, give 1/2 the dosage prescribed for cats. **DO NOT use frontline drops on your skunk.** Be careful of long-term use of any chemical! We have used Zodiac flea shampoo and Mycodex brand diluted it to put on our skunks. You can pick up a shampoo with Pyrethrins. 0.15%. **NEVER** use Hartz products. You can sprinkle FOOD GRADE Diatomaceous earth on the carpets and on the skunk.

Nails: should be cut every month. You can use toenail clippers or nail trimmers for dogs or cats. Be careful not to cut the quick and have flour or styptic powder ready in case you do.

Cleaning Do not use Lysol, Carpet Fresh, or plug in air fresheners. Be CAREFUL of cleaners! Many of these items can be TOXIC to animals. We use Nature's Miracle or white vinegar and Nixall. Wash their bedding with Baby detergent or free and clear. Warnings about fabric softeners: Skunks are sensitive animals and anything can be TOXIC to them.

Fur Skunks can lose their tail fur due to poor diet, parasites, hormone imbalance, or from excessive shedding (seasonal). Mixed results have been achieved by adding zinc, Biotin, and/or Vitamin E to the diet. Almonds are a good source of Vitamin E. If the tail is yellow spray with water and wipe it down. You need to open the pores. A skunk's white is supposed to be white not orange, off white or yellow. If discolored then it could be due to STRESS, diet, parasites, urine or bedding. If not spayed females can lose the back end of the fur.

Weight Most adult skunks should weigh from 3 to 9 lbs DEPENDING on body frame. and may vary 1 to 2 lbs. from their optimum weight as the seasons change; skunks gain in late summer and autumn then lose over the winter months. This also depends on body frame too, just like people. **If your skunk is overweight get a smaller bowl (small rodent bowl).** This helps you get used to giving them less. Adults Feed twice a day. The BEST way to keep your skunk healthy is to monitor its weight regularly. Kits less than four months old should gain weight very rapidly. Weigh them once each week; you should notice regular weight gain each week. Youngsters and young adults should be weighed once each month; watch for excessive weight loss or gain. Adults should be monitored every six to eight weeks and should not change much over the course of the year. Skunks over six years old should be monitored each month (or more often if they have other health problems). Underweight can also cause major issues too.

>**POTENTIAL HEALTH PROBLEMS:** Rectal Prolapse, Seizures, Worms, Liver, Kidney, Heart, Calcium Deficiency and OBESITY. A SKUNK NOT WALKING is another problem. Call us when this happens. With proper care most of these can be corrected BEFORE the problem starts. Overweight: Please monitor your skunk's weight. Older, overweight skunks WILL have problems later.

>**Seizures:** Administer a little (Karo/high sugar) syrup on side of mouth with spoon or something other than finger. Stop feeding fruit and start feeding more meals closer together. Call for advice. **Rectal Prolapse:** The intestine comes out of the rectum. To treat, first cut your nails to avoid injury to the skunk. Rinse the prolapse in warm water, put Preparation H and KY Jelly on your finger and gently work the intestine/prolapse back inside your skunk. Change diet for a while. If unsure as to what to do, please call for advice. Or go to www.skunkhaven.net website. Malnutrition: Not enough nutritional/food causes major problems.



THERE ARE NO APPROVED RABIES VACCINES FOR SKUNKS. Some vets will suggest you give the skunk rabies shots, but this does NOT prevent the state health department from taking your skunk if it bites someone. **If the bite is reported, the skunk will normally be destroyed, so DO NOT let people PET your skunk. If you do, ALWAYS hold the head and let people touch the BACK only. Vaccines for distemper can use DHPP Vanguard Plus by Zoetis. Do NOT over vaccinate your skunk! Warning: some skunks have adverse reactions to vaccines. Know what you are giving to your skunk! Many people do NOT vaccinate any more.**

****IT IS ILLEGAL-** to re-sell your pet skunk without a federal USDA permit AND your state permit. If you cannot keep your skunk, call us. Do NOT let your skunk go into the wild, it will die. **CALL US please.**

Pet Skunks are NOT legal in all states. Contact your State Wildlife Department and/or local wildlife officer in regard to the laws on skunk possession and the license that is required in your state. **KEEP YOUR RECEIPT** to prove your skunk did not come from the wild. Always get the state permit and USDA License numbers of the breeder/dealer/store where you are buying. Although you may not get into trouble, buying from unlicensed dealers/stores encourages this illegal trade and encourages the taking of animals from the wild. **Be aware in states that are legal to own a skunk that you might not be able to purchase your skunk from another state & import it into your state. If you get caught the skunk will get killed. Check state laws here <http://www.skunkhaven.net/StatesForm.htm>**

Please go to www.skunkhaven.net for more detailed information. And feel free to contact: **Deb Cipriani Ph: 440-327-4349 (cell) 216-210-3280 Email: daisyphew@oh.rr.com or Cathy Dalglish Ph: 812-873-6357 Email: imaskunksaver@gmail.com**

Please join us for Skunk Info Chat on Facebook. www.facebook.com/groups/SkunkHaven/. Feel free to ask questions about your new baby. Prepared by Deborah Cipriani /2002 No part of this pamphlet can be used without permission. This is to be used as a guideline for skunks. Use your common sense. We are not responsible for problems occurring with skunks. Join us at SKUNKFEST held in North Ridgeville, the second Saturday in September.

What to Feed a Skunk

WARNING>IF YOU FEED YOUR SKUNK JUST VEGGIES, CHICKEN, YOGURT, COTTAGE CHEESE, ETC...THESE FOODS DO NOT CONTAIN ENOUGH CALCIUM FOR THEIR DIET. IN THE FUTURE YOUR SKUNK MAY NOT WALK AND HAVE POOR BONE DENSITY. **For baby's, give smaller amounts of food more often. Do not feed them like an adult.**

Dog Food is good to use. I do a rotation diet of different dog food each day along with their veggies.

Skunks will eat most vegetables, fruits, nuts, and raw or cooked meats. **DO NOT GIVE GRAPES OR RAISINS** they can cause sickness. Give your skunk any fresh and/or frozen vegetables he will eat.

Boneless poultry and fish are good sources of low-fat protein; natural dog food can also be used to add protein.

Eggs, cheese, yogurt, and other dairy products add calcium (not whole milk or high fat cheeses)

Fish oil, flax seed oil, and/or Halo Dream Coat can be added to keep the skin and fur soft. **Organic Apple Cider vinegar in the food almost every day will help the fur and make it soft and helps with weight gain as well.**

* Fish - Tuna, cod, salmon, etc. They should be boiled, baked, or water-packed.

* Cottage cheese - Low fat brand only. Limit to 1 teaspoon.

* Yogurt - Limit to 1 teaspoon or use as a topping to flavor cooked grains.

* Organic whole-grain cereal - Be careful with popular grocery store brands. Most of them contain chemical preservatives.

* Veggie burgers - Found in the freezer case of your grocery store.

* Whole grain breads

* Cooked grains of all kinds - Flavor with seasoning, yogurt, or veggie burger.

* Cooked dried beans (legumes)

* Pasta - For occasional use only.

* Insects - Mealworms, crickets, beetles, etc. The nutrition your skunk gets from them is only as good as the nutrition fed to the insects.

Many store-raised insects are void of nutrition. Insects on the ground watch out for pesticides. Meal worms you need **2000 per day** for a proper diet.

*Hamburger, lean cooked.

*Cereal, whole grain breads, cooked grains, and other high fiber foods should be given.

*Nuts are a good source of essential fats (be careful of allergic reactions). Raw almonds are best.

*A few drops of organic apple cider vinegar can be added to aid digestion.

*Use fruits only two or three times each week, more often if your skunk suffers from hypoglycemia/low blood sugar.

***Supplement the diet with calcium w/D3 (Try Rep-cal in pink canister).**

***Skunks need Taurine!** We suggest liquid: <http://www.harmlen.com/DynaTaurine.asp>, phone: Brian at 402-307-0221.

What NOT to feed a Skunk

NOTICE: IF YOU SKUNK STOPS EATING, CERTAIN FOODS LISTED BELOW CAN BE GIVEN TO GET YOUR SKUNK EATING AGAIN TO AVOID THEM SEIZURING. (See items with " * " below. These items may be given if skunk stops eating.)

NO iceberg lettuce. There's no nutritional value in iceberg lettuce.

NO sweets **Refined sugars** - Cake, cookies, pastry, ice cream, sweetened cereals, etc. They can disrupt the skunk's blood sugar regulatory system even when fed in small quantities and can lead to hypoglycemia and **diabetes. (They can be given if your skunk stopped eating).**

NO chocolate Especially baking chocolate. It contains caffeine and theobromine which are stimulants and can be fatal to animals.

NO fatty foods Raw chicken necks - Watch out for choking! NOTE:> I do not use the raw necks due to some of my skunks almost died by eating them.

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NO onions and NO asparagus.

*NO fried foods Hamburgers, french fries, fried chicken, etc. They are too high in fat content. **(Can give if your skunk stopped eating)**

*NO lunch meat (salami, bologna, etc.)

*NO hot-dogs and bologna - The nitrates they contain are unhealthy, and they offer little nutritional value.

*NO potato chips

NO bird seed mix (especially sunflower seeds which can puncture intestines or get impacted)

NO aspartame (Nutra-sweet), xylitol, or artificial sweeteners - Artificial sweeteners are chemicals which will adversely affect their health

* Fast food - Typically high in fat content and low in nutritional value. **(Can give if your skunk stopped eating)**

* Junk food - Nachos, chips, cheese doodles, snack crackers, etc. High in fat content and low in nutritional value. Same as above*

*Grapes or raisins- Some skunks have gotten sick or died from these, they are also toxic to dogs and have caused kidney failure.

* Foods high in fat content - Check the labels on food products.

* Foods containing chemical preservatives & additives - Learn to read labels at the grocery store.

* Dried fruit containing sulfur dioxide

* Canned fruits & vegetables - They have less nutritional value than fresh or frozen products, and the cans contain lead which, if fed frequently enough can lead to problems with lead toxicity.

Limit the following types of foods in quantity and frequency. There are many foods and food products which can be added to this list, but this will give you a general idea of the types of food to limit in quantity. If you review and follow the recommended diet plan, you will be feeding your skunk foods that maximize the amount of nutrition he receives in lieu of the types of foods listed below.

* Salt or foods containing excessive salt content

* Heavily processed foods - Lesser nutritional value.* Limited Dairy products - Too much will cause diarrhea because most skunks are lactose intolerant.

Cautions

Asparagus has been known to cause seizures in some skunks.

Raw nuts and some raw grains may contain small amounts of yeast or mold that may cause allergic reactions.

Many processed foods, including most low-fat yogurt, may contain aspartame (Nutra-sweet) and should not be used.

If you choose to feed your skunk dog food, use a high quality, natural blend dry food. If you choose to feed raw poultry use organically grown and properly processed meat.

If you choose to feed (frozen) rodents use your best judgment on quality (skunks cannot tolerate bacteria and viruses that would not affect a snake). High doses of vitamin A can cause liver problems.© 2024 Skunk Haven Skunk Rescue, Shelter, and Education, Inc.

Sample SKUNK DIET - Skunk Haven Inc.

We compiled this diet based on results of yearly blood work.
Use common sense. This is a guideline only and watch for allergic reactions

We feed a wide variety of different foods each day. Here is a sample list used in a day/week. We use a food processor for the veggies and fruits. **Please choose from each category per day. Note: babies are fed 4/5 times per day.**

NOTE: If you feed only vegetables your skunk will have loss of bone mass.

Morning: Our skunks get 1/3 cup frozen vegetables (such as peas, carrots, green beans, carrots) thawed, along with supplements needed. Some skunks are given extra virgin olive oil.

Afternoon/evening: PROTEIN is very important! FAT is not! We give something from EACH category:

Choice of one per day: Tofu, cooked chicken, cooked turkey, cooked hamburger (only a few times a month). **PROTEIN and other foods are VERY IMPORTANT and should constitute 65% of the skunk's diet.**

Choice of a few per day; a bite or so of boiled egg, raw oats, puffed rice, cheerios or other types of cereal, almonds, (nuts) soy beans, macaroni salad, beans, natural bread, pasta, brown rice.

Choice of one per day: yogurt, cottage or ricotta cheese, Swiss or other type of hard cheese.

Choice of one per day: honey, flax seed oil, fish oil, Best coat, ranch dressing, "I Can't Believe Its' Not Butter" spray (used on foods skunks will not eat).

Choice of many per day: fresh broccoli, cauliflower, Bok choy, Napa, yellow or other types of squash, zucchini, green peppers, turnips, parsley root, dandelion, parsnip root, peas, sugar snap peas, carrots, black carrots, Belgian endive, romaine lettuce, brussel sprouts, potatoes, sweet potatoes, yams, eggplant (cut off green top its toxic), green beans, wax beans, broccoli or cole slaw, tomatoes, mushrooms, cucumbers (sometimes seedless), beets (watch for red poop), avocado (skin and seed are toxic), purple cabbage, alfalfa, bean sprouts, Spanish olives (few times a month), celery (once a month), Almost any veggie.

Choice of one per day or every other day: A bite or so of pear or apple, blueberries (watch for blue poop), melon, banana, strawberry, cranberries.

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Every day: Liquid Taurine (<http://www.harlmen.com/DynaTaurine.asp>) or call Brian at 402-307-0221

Every other day: Rep-Cal with D3 (white jar with pink label) (Note: if your skunk's calcium is normal then use this or any other calcium supplement in moderation/, **Colostrum**.

For skunks over 1 year old use L-Carnitine

Every once in a while: Sprinkle of wheat germ, multi-minerals, cranberry juice, orange juice, organic apple cider vinegar, garlic juice, Old Mother Hubbard dog biscuits, live crickets, spray of Willard's water, oregano, tuna fish, other types of fish, nuts, peanut butter, meal worms, pinkies.

We also give a wide variety of supplements/herbs/homeopathic/holistic items depending on blood work and x-rays when something is wrong with a skunk. These may include: **Colostrum**, minerals, Pet Tinic, shark cartilage, liver support, milk thistle, etc.

Different vitamins such as Nu-Cat, Missing Link (we mix veggie and feline together), Pet Tabs, Nutra-Cal, and Felovite 11 are also given. BUT just pick ONE.

Foods I will not give: Asparagus (can cause seizures in skunks), onions, chocolate, sweets, cookies, fatty foods, processed meats like lunch meat, hot dogs, some fried foods, pork, bacon, lettuce, (cat food> only if a skunk is not eating), bird seed> Never give grapes or raisins.

Skunk CPR / Choking and other Medical Info

CPR Procedure – *Print this and hang it up*

- **Lay skunk on right side -**
- **Use two fingers, under left arm pit and do slow and steady compressions, one every two to three seconds. Do this four or five times -**
- **Then, holding mouth closed, place your mouth over nose and blow sharply into nose two to three times –**
- **Repeat procedure as often as necessary to get skunk breathing again.**

Instructions for Choking – *Print this and hang it up*

Monitor your skunk(s) after meals to make sure they are not choking or have something stuck in their mouth. Skunks that eat fast, or will fight with other pets for foods, will get food or other things stuck in their mouth or throat. Some skunks will eat too much at a meal and throw-up some of the food, occasionally they will aspirate the food. Usually they will try to use their front nails to pull the object out, sometimes they are not successful and need your assistance.

If you have a skunk that is prone to choking, chop the food into fine pieces and make sure that you don't give anything thick, like peanut butter, without watering it down. You should soak dry (dog) food in water, or a 1:1 mixture of fruit juice and water, to soften the food. Sticky foods, like bread and moist grains, should be broken into small pieces and mixed well with other foods. Also make sure fresh water is available after meals.

If the skunk is still breathing (partial obstruction) try presenting sweetened water, juice, etc., to determine if the skunk will drink and possibly clear the object. Do not force the skunk to drink, you can try a few drops on the tongue or gums to induce the skunk to drink if necessary.

You should have a few plastic or wooden spoons, wooden sticks or pop-cycle sticks, or a rubber-coated baby spoon, that you can use to pry the skunk's mouth open and dislodge anything stuck in there. Be careful that you don't push the object farther into the throat! Do not put your fingers in the skunk's mouth!

If necessary you can use a modified Heimlich maneuver to help dislodge an object stuck in the throat:

Place the skunk straddled across one arm with the head in your hand (you may have to hold the skunk by the sides of the head with your fingertips being careful not to hold the neck or throat tightly).

Tilt the head down as much as you can and still maintain control.

Strike the skunk three or four times using sharp blows with the heel of the hand just behind the front legs.

cleanse and soothe the wounds. We have had good success with Cipro (Ciprofloxacin HCL) treating various infections - consult your vet for more information. Be aware of the precautions when using Cipro, discontinue calcium supplements and avoid direct sunlight when using Cipro. We are using Colloidal Silver 10 on the wound along with antibiotics.

- **Your skunk's temperature should read 96-97 degree's. It will go up in stressful times, like a trip to the vets by two degrees. If it's 102 degrees your skunk may start to seizure. GET the temperature down~**
- **Problems with Kits> 1. Kits are prone to seizures and rectal prolapsed. Please refer to the other pages or web site. 2. Please have your skunks fecal tested for Coccidiosis, it can kill your baby skunk. 3. Many skunks may have round worms. One worming will not rid your skunk from worms. Please refer to the box of Evict Double Strength for worming instructions. 4. Diet is a big factor; please make sure the skunk gets a form of protein.**

▪ **Nixall ~ an all-green product~**

<https://nixall.com/product/nixall-disinfectant-sanitizer/>

- We have been using Nixall disinfectant to clean all of our litter boxes, in the wash, on the floors, on the counters etc. It's an all-green product. Nixall is 100 times stronger than bleach. It's a safe way to clean around your animals, kill all those nasty virus and bacterias and also great for medical purposes too. Check out their web site <http://nixall.com/>
- You can dilute it and will work just as good. I do dilute for cleaning.

▪ ***Ways to help SKUNK HAVEN:**

Do you use herbs, vitamins or other healthy products for you or your pet? We use many Nature Sunshine products for us and to save our skunks. Anything any one orders Skunk Haven will get credit. Natures Sunshine 800-453-1422 (Say under acct # 325157 to give us credit). We take donations!! Sent to Skunk Haven, 32072 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039. All the money will help skunks one way or another!!!

LIST OF VETERINARIANS THAT WILL SEE AND TREAT SKUNKS List is not in order. Also see website:

*****People in NJ please contact Sherry DeMarchi if help is needed. 732-425-3048*****

Dr. Frank Krupka. DVM is an excellent source of information regarding skunk treatment and care for both owners of pet skunks and other veterinarians as well. Please feel free to consult with him during NORMAL business hours only. Below is a listing of vets that see skunks **BUT Please ask the question even to these vets listed: What will you do if my skunk bites you? If they turn in your skunk, find another vet!** YOU are paying the bill so make sure you know what your vet is doing to your skunk. **ASK first!** Please feel free to call for a listing in your state. **Make sure you get copies of ALL testing to keep in a file at home. WARNING do NOT use METACAM!! Metacam has been reported in many skunk deaths.**

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For more listing see <https://www.skunkhaven.net/VetList.htm>

ALERT! ALERT!! ALERT! ALERT!! ALERT! ALERT!! ALERT! ALERT!!
ALERT!

If your skunk bites or scratches anyone, and if it is reported to the health dept, your skunk may be confiscated and beheaded to be tested for rabies. The person getting bit might not report it, but the doctor/clinic they see WILL. And if they work for a Veterinarian Clinic, guess what...the VET CLINIC will report it to the health dept. So Please do **NOT** assume anything! Also, if YOU get bit by your own skunk in front of someone it could be reported as well.

Suggestions when bringing your skunk in for check-ups etc.: I have signs taped on my carriers. Remind them as you check in that **no one** is allowed to touch your skunk except for the Vet. Don't let the employees stick fingers in carriers or carry your skunk off to another room without you for an exam. Ask them if they had their rabies vaccine. (All the Vets should, but employees may not.) Do not let an employee take your skunk out of the carrier. **ONLY YOU** do it. If you know your skunk is a biter, warn them and bring welder gloves to the clinic with you. Notice the Vet is wearing gloves in the picture on the right on page 12, *bottom*.

Also hold your skunk while on the table. They may run off the table and get hurt.

Dr. Frank Krupka Avon Lake Animal Clinic 124 Miller Rd Avon Lake Ohio (440)-933-5297	Dr. H. S. Sodiwal, DVM (not seeing skunks due to Covid right now) Rolling Hills Animal Hospital 714 Pearl Rd. Brunswick, OH 44212 (330) 225-6336	Will Mandel DVM Midwest Veterinary Hospital 30550 Euclid Ave. Wickliffe, OH 44092 (440) 516-0000
Dr. Robert Dahlhausen 5989 Meijer Dr. Suite 11 Milford, OH 45150 Phone: (513) 576-1990 Emergency: (513) 226-4299	Metropet Veterinary Clinic 298 North Rocky River Drive • Berea, OH 44017 • 440-826-1520 • info@metropetvet.com	Jamie Bobulsky DVM Melinda Marks DVM Animal Care Unlimited 2665 Billingsley Rd. Columbus, OH 43235 (614) 766-2317
Dan Meakin, DVM All Creatures Animal Hospital 1894 Ohio Pike Amelia, Ohio 45102 (513) 797-Pets	Christine Pappas DVM Venaya Jones DVM West Geauga Veterinary Hospital 12498 Chillicothe Rd. Chesterland, OH (440) 729-9584	Dayton South Vet Clinic 3200 Wilmington Pike Kettering, Ohio (937)294-8888
Dr. Neil Bonham DVM Lancaster Animal Clinic 1311 River Valley Blvd. Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (740)687-1591	Feeder Creek Animal Hospital 12575 Lancaster St. Millersport, OH 43046 (740) 467-2949	Animal Care Center of Forest Park 11440 Winton Rd. Cincinnati, OHIO 45240 (513) 742-5700
Dr. Angela Lennox, DVM 9330 Waldemar Road Indianapolis , IN 46268 (317) 879-8633	Dr. Brent Crabtree Pendleton Veterinary Clinic 1011 S Pendleton Ave, Pendleton, IN 46064 Phone: (765) 778-2909	Dr. Laurent Bass, DVM RLM Veterinary Services 2805 North State Highway 3 North Vernon, IN 47265 (812) 346-8008
Danielle Walker DVM McAfee Animal Hospital 651 Eastport Centre Dr. Valparaiso, IN 46383 (219) 462-5901	Dr. Beth Breitweiser, DVM All Things Exotic Animal Hospital 6058 N Keystone Av Indianapolis, IN 46220 (317) 255-9453	Dr. L.W. Reed Westchester Animal Clinic 55 E. U.S. Hwy. 20 Porter, IN 46304 219-926-1194



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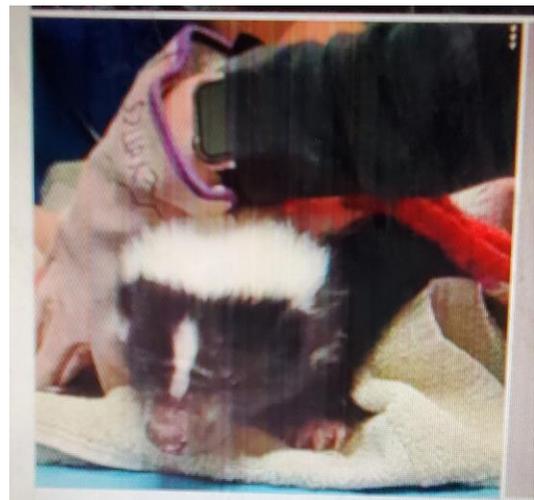
Dr. Melaine A. Roberts DVM Allison Lane Animal Hospital 1660 Allison Lane Jeffersonville, IN 47130 (812)283-4910 <u>after hrs. (812)346-4545</u>	Dr. Lesleigh Cash Warren,OK. 918 342-1509 <u>Fax: 918 342-1512.</u> SAHO Animal Hospitals in OK www.sahovets.com 918-274-8387	Cheryl Pfeffer Animal Medical and Surgical Hospital, 7140 S. 69th E. Ave. Tulsa, OK 74133 <u>(918) 492-2674</u> Dr Stachmus Brookwood Animal Clinic 433 SW 89th OKC, OK 405-634-7799
Obetz Animal Hospital www.obetzah.com 614-491-5676 3999 Alum Creek DR Columbus, OH 43207	Marya Teders, DVM North Arlington Animal Clinic (614) 457-4636 5011 Dierker Road Columbus, OH 43220 http://www.northarlingtonvet.com/	Dr. Kupersmith Animal & Bird Health Care Center 1785 Springdale Rd . Cherry Hill, NJ 08043 856-751-2122 or 843-884-7387
WARNING THEY REPORT BITES! ***Red Bank Veterinary Hospitals 197 Hance Avenue Tinton Falls NJ "NOTE: only for emergencies" to 24/7 emergency room. <u>732-747-3636.</u>	Dr. Kelleher Broward Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital 1101 S. Powerline Rd. Suite 108 Deerfield Beach, FL 33442 (954) 968-7171	Warning this clinic may kill your skunk! they report bites! Dr. Peter Helmer Bluepearl Specialty & Emergency Medicine for Pets 3000 Busch Lake Blvd. Tampa, FL 33614 813-933-8944
Dr. Kim Castro Animal Clinic of Edgewater 2339 S Ridgewood Ave. Pelican Plaza US 1 Edgewater, FL 32141 (386) 426-5532	Dr. Dawn Miller 15114 NW 32 nd Ave. Newbury, FL 32669 (352) 332-3063	Dr. Rhoda Stevenson Exotic Bird Hospital, Inc. 8820 Old Kings Rd. South Jacksonville, FL 32257 (904) 256-0043
Dr. Rossi Riverside Animal Hospital 2641 Park Street Jacksonville, FL 32204 904-388-3494	Land O'Lakes Animal Hospital 4306 Land O'lakes blvd Land O'lakes, FL 34639 813/996-2021	Animal Kingdom 4920 Ann Arbor-Saline RD Ann Arbor, MI 48103 734-913-0003
City Pets 723 Plymouth Road Ann Arbor, MI 48105 <u>734-929-4071</u> Quakertown Vet Clinic Bucks County 215-536-6245	Dr. Steven Silberman *Good vet* Affordable Spay, Neuter Clinic And Pet Care 1486 S. Hanover St Pottstown, PA 19465 610-970-4173 http://affordablespay.com/ Will only Spay or Neuter your skunk	Dr. Pawlinski All creatures Veterinary Care 2836 Earlstown Rd. Suite 4 Centre Hall, PA 16828 (814) 364-2040
John A. Hall Smoketown Veterinary Hospital 2497 Old Philadelphia Pike Lancaster, PA 17602 (717) 394-5542	Robert Wiegert DVM Vet Clinic of Fairfield 2504 West Burlington Ave. Fairfield, Iowa 52556 (641) 472-2455	Dr. Melinda Luper DVM 2348 Rice Blvd Houston, TX 77005 713-527-0489
Bird & Exotic Pet Wellness Center http://www.birdsandexotics.com/ 5166 Monroe St. suite 306 Toledo, OH 43623 419-843-3137	NJ Dog, Cat and Bird Clinic of Nutley 324 Passaic Ave, Nutley, NJ 07003 973-661-0441 www.dogcatbird.net	Dunckel Veterinary Hospital www.dunckelvet.com 810-653-3988 2048 S. State Rd. Davison, MI 48423

***NorthStar VETS 315 Robbinsville-Allentown Road New Jersey 609-259-8300 locations open 24/7 including weekends and holidays	Stockton Veterinary Hospital 56 South Main Street Stockton, NJ 08559 609-483-2590 Dr. Julia	Dr Nadine Wright St Francis Animal Hospital St Cloud, FL 24771 407-891-1844
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Animal & Bird Health Care Center 1785 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, New Jersey 856-301-8014 Dr. Kupersmith	Companion Animal Hospital 460 US Hwy 46 West Parsippany, New Jersey 973-227-7500 Dr. Wolf	Mount Laurel Animal Hospital 220 Mount Laurel Road Mount Laurel, New Jersey 856-234-7626 Note: 24/7 emergency care (also provides regular veterinary services)
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Franklin Lakes Animal Hospital 754 Franklin Avenue Franklin Lakes, NJ 201-817-5564 Dr. Onesios	Good Vet for Skunks Paws, Wings & Scales Animal Hospital 125 Paterson Avenue Little Falls, NJ 07424 973-638-1180 Dr. Stancel	Edgebrook Animal Hospital 777 Helmetta Blvd. East Brunswick, New Jersey 732-257-8882 Dr. Slade
--	--	--

SUGGESTION: Ask your vet for some 3ml or 10ml syringes to keep on hand, in case you need to syringe feed or use them to administer liquid meds, Kayo syrup or other supplements to your skunk in the future. Keep them in your Skunk First Aid Kit!	*** Additional information on these New Jersey Veterinarians available on page <u>13</u>.
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NEW JERSEY VETERINARY SERVICES FOR SKUNKS

***NorthStar VETS locations open 24/7 including weekends and holidays

315 Robbinsville-Allentown Road 609-259-8300. No appointment is needed to bring your skunk in for an emergency. BUT it is not guaranteed that you will see an exotics vets in the emergency room, especially after 5 p.m. because that is when they leave for the day. A general vet will examine and stabilize your skunk but if an exotic exam or treatment is deemed necessary, your skunk will need to be admitted overnight to be seen the next morning. Otherwise, you'd need to make an appointment during regular hours, to have your skunk seen by an exotics vet, which will be weeks out.



- Maple Shade (Camden/Burlington County) (does not see skunks)
- Brick, NJ (Ocean County) (does not see skunks)

***Red Bank Veterinary Hospitals locations open 24/7 including weekends and holidays

197 Hance Avenue, Tinton Falls (may be moving soon to a new building) 732-747-3636. No appointment is needed to bring your skunk in for an emergency. BUT it is not guaranteed that you will see an exotics vets in the emergency room. A general vet will examine your skunk but if specialty, exotic exam or treatment is deemed necessary, your skunk will need to be admitted overnight and transferred to exotics the next day. Otherwise, you'd need to make an appointment during regular hours, to have your skunk seen by an exotics vet, which could be days to weeks out.

WORD OF CAUTION WITH RED BANK VETERINARY HOSPITALS: THIS CLINIC CAN BE VERY EXPENSIVE. THEY WILL “STRONGLY ADVISE” THAT YOUR ANIMAL STAY IN THE CLINIC OVERNIGHT FOR TESTING AND/OR OBSERVATION WHICH WILL RUN UP THE COST OF TREATMENT.

- Hillsborough (does not see skunks)
- Mount Laurel (does not see skunks)



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Skunk Haven

Skunk Rescue, Shelter, and Education, Inc.

Membership Application

Skunk Haven Skunk Rescue, Shelter, and Education, Inc. (Skunk Haven) is dedicated to promoting responsible skunk ownership for the purposes of breeding, exhibition, and companionship in all states. **Skunk Haven** will provide assistance to all skunk owners and will remain neutral concerning all other skunk related organizations. Membership is open; we do not exclude persons from any state or country, nor do we exclude persons who do not own skunks.

Membership includes:

- Assistance with obtaining pet skunks
- Assistance with temporary care of domestic skunks
- Assistance with rehabilitation of abused domestic skunks
- Newsletter called Skunk News
- Membership Card

Please complete the form below and return with your annual \$15.00 donation for **Skunk Haven** to:

Renee Pearlstein

5994 Chapel Rd.

Madison ,OH 44057

ferretfun4@yahoo.com

Make out the check to Skunk Haven Inc.

For questions you can call Deb at:

Phone: (440) 327-4349

Cell 24/7: (216) 210-3280

E-mail: daisyphew@oh.rr.com

Skunk Haven Membership Application

Member Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____; E-mail Address: _____

Do you want to have the SKUNK NEWS e-mailed to you? Please circle YES NO

Member's Birth date (optional): _____

Vet's Name, Address & Phone: _____

Skunk(s) Name(s) and Age(s): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



PUBLIC is welcome to attend the 25th Annual



Rain or Shine

SKUNKFEST 2026

Rain or Shine



September 12th Sat. 10 am – 4 pm

South Central Park, 7565 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039



Bring your family to the most exciting event of the year!

A friendly gathering for skunk lovers & skunk owners from everywhere to share some fun and discussions about skunks. All Skunks welcome although you do not need to be a skunk owner to attend!

There will be other rescue groups with their animals set up as well!

Games *** DJ *** Raffles *** Vendors *** Speakers *** Other Animals***Food
Dress up your skunk for the Costume Contest *** Fun Skunk Contests with awards

If you want to see something different come → see the colors of skunks: Apricot, Lavender, Brown, and more.

REGISTRATION for Skunks for ALL contests BEGINS AT 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

THE JUDGES WILL BEGIN JUDGING FOR THE OFFICIAL

SKUNKFEST KING & QUEEN AND PRINCE & PRINCESS From 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Fun contests will be in the afternoon: Dress up your Skunk Costume, Most Talented, Skunk Run, Best Detective



Skunk entry fee at the door for contests is \$10 for 1 skunk, \$5 for each additional skunk

Entry for People into the SkunkFest – cash donations are always appreciated!

Or a donation of paper towels, or natural grain cereal

At least 1 item per person, please!

Your Club, Group, Organization or Company are welcome to set up as a vendor.

Contact Shelley at shelley.storch@gmail.com or (419) 651-6943 for more info.

****Check out the food tent for humans ****

www.skunkhaven.net

For more information contact:

Deborah Cipriani
32072 Center Ridge Road
North Ridgeville, OH 44039
Phone: (440) 327-4349



Shelley Storch
461 Township Road 150
Sullivan, OH 44880
Phone: (419) 651-6943

Email: daisyphew@oh.rr.com

Email: shelley.storch@gmail.com

* South Central Park has been Smoke Free please do not vape or smoke or vape during the event *

*Please do not touch other people's skunks. * Skunks need to be carried, on a leash or in a carrier at all times.

Do NOT let the public touch your skunk! (No other pets allowed) ** NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS **

Hotel Reservations

Red Roof Inn 29595 Clemons Rd. Westlake, OH 44145, 440-892-7920, Reservations under VP# 623247

Rates are good until September 12, 2026.

Please book your room early before they sell out!

* Party at the hotel Sat. night.

Room rates \$69.00/tax for standard and deluxe rooms

*** 72 hours advance notice for cancellations ***

CASH OR GIFT DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SKUNKS

PayPal
(deb@skunkhaven.net)
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(@Deborah-Cipriani-3):

