



PRESS ADVISORY: Media Welcome

ARF TO SAVE DOGS FROM PUPPY MILLS DOGS ARRIVE ON THE EAST END NOVEMBER 10

Wainscott, NY—November 5, 2010 The Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons, Inc. (ARF), the leading animal welfare agency on the East End of Long Island, announced its plan to rescue another group of breeder dogs from puppy mills. This is ARF's fourth rescue this year. In collaboration with its partner, Best Friends Animal Society and their "Puppies Aren't Products" Campaign, these dogs will be placed up for adoption instead of being euthanized.

A puppy mill is a dog breeding facility that produces puppies in large numbers usually to be sold on the internet and in pet stores. The breeder dogs live their lives in chicken wire cages and are forced to reproduce, litter after litter. The dogs receive limited human contact and poor veterinary care, if any. Once these breeder dogs grow older and are no longer useful, most are typically killed. Younger dogs are also discarded for minor medical issues, usually a result of over breeding.

These dogs are on their way to a better life. ARF Operations Director, Michele Forrester, along with ARF volunteers, will transport this group of dogs to the ARF Adoption Center, 90 Daniels Hole Road, Wainscott. With the help of Best Friends Animal Society, the nationally acclaimed Animal Sanctuary in Utah and the inspiration for the National Geographic program *Dogtown* these dogs will soon be on their way to the staging facility in New York for the rescue pickup.

Earlier this week, voters in Missouri approved Proposition B, a statewide initiative to establish basic standards for the care of dogs in large-scale breeding facilities, including sufficient food, clean water, housing and space, necessary veterinary care, regular exercise and adequate time between breeding cycles. Missouri is home to an estimated 3,000 puppy mills, far more than any other state in the country. 40% of all puppies sold in pet stores nationwide come from Missouri. Of these, 68% are imported to New York. The passage of Proposition B, which takes effect in a year, will have an impact on our future rescue efforts.

Last year, ARF participated in the rescue of 525 dogs from puppy mills and hopes to exceed that number in 2010.

As soon as the puppy mill dogs are bathed, groomed, neutered and medically cleared, they will be put up for adoption.

All media is invited to the Adoption Center November 10, 2010 to meet the dogs upon their arrival. Call for ETA.

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ABOUT ARF:

The Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons provides for the health and welfare of dogs and cats on the South Fork of Long Island and Shelter Island through shelter and adoption services, medical care, spaying and neutering programs, community outreach and humane education. Founded in 1974, ARF is the leading animal adoption center on the East End.