



HALIFAX FIRE DEPARTMENT: Halifax receives donated oxygen masks to help save animals lives

Wicked Local Halifax

Posted Sep 17, 2013 @ 10:00 AM

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HALIFAX — The Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association Charities Inc. (MVMACI) has provided a set of pet oxygen masks to the Halifax Fire Department to help save animals lives. Halifax is the latest community to benefit from a statewide initiative by the MVMACI to outfit each of the 356 cities and towns in the Commonwealth with at least one set of animal oxygen masks for their first responder units.

The MVMACI already offers funds to each Massachusetts municipality to provide veterinary medical care to stray cats and dogs. This initiative puts masks that are sized and shaped for animals in the hands of rescue personnel, allowing emergency responders to effectively administer oxygen to pets rescued from fires and other emergency situations. The MVMACI's Pet Oxygen Mask Program also seeks to raise public awareness of the importance of including pets in family emergency planning and preparation, support animal control officers in their animal-care work, and assist the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Animal Response Team in its preparedness efforts.

"We are so pleased to provide Halifax with these oxygen mask," MVMACI President Dr. Suzanne Starr said. "Firefighters and other responders regularly rescue animals from emergency situations, and those animals need immediate care. These masks could well mean the difference between life and death for someone's beloved pet."

"The Charity's Pet Oxygen Mask and Stray Animal Programs offer support to cities and towns across the Commonwealth for two primary purposes: to help animals survive disaster and to help them receive veterinary care when they have been injured," Starr said. "The masks will help explain how the MVMACI is working with municipal animal control officers to help protect some of the most vulnerable animals."

The MVMACI is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit supporting charity to the Massachusetts statewide professional association of veterinarians. The MVMACI offers funding to help animal control officers pay for veterinary treatment of stray animals, is equipped with a set of animal oxygen masks, provides international veterinary medical services in the Dominican Republic through Project Samana, and supports emergency operations during an emergency or disaster. Contributions to the MVMACI are tax-deductible. Visit us on Facebook.

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