

Fetch



Thank you to our partners who made CountyPets Playground possible!

Welcome to the Grand Opening of CountyPets Playground

Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services



Friends of CountyPets



Harris County Commissioners Court



Harris County Public Infrastructure Department



Kraftsman LP

Orvis/Petfinder Foundation



Saturday October 4th, 2014



"Working in partnership with the community to create a safe, healthy and caring environment for animals and people."

Sit

HCPHES Veterinary Public Health works every day to protect you, your pets and your neighborhood. CountyPets Playground was designed to encourage more adoptions from Harris County Animal Shelter each year.

We want all of our dogs to be adopted to their "forever homes," and one of the first steps toward being a responsible pet owner is making sure you have met your perfect match in a new pet. CountyPets Playground gives you the opportunity to interact with adoptable dogs in a natural setting, where pets can show you who they really are.

This is one of many improvements for Veterinary Public Health (VPH) to improve the welfare of the animals at the shelter and to increase the number of animals adopted, fostered, transferred and returned to their owners in Harris County. We hope you take the time to meet one of our adoptable dogs at CountyPets Playground today.

"When you bring that dog outside, you see a completely different animal than in the kennel."

-Leslie Keller Heinsohn

VPH Volunteer &
Friends of CountyPets Board Member

Shake

The VPH Animal Shelter will open at 11am for adoptions today. Take some time to get to know your new furry friend by playing with them in CountyPets Playground.

Any adoptions made today will come with a free goody bag for your new pet!

Half-Price
Adoptions
in October!



Dr. Michael White

Dr. White joined the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services team in 2010 as the Zoonosis Veterinarian and became the Director of the Veterinary Public Health Division (VPH) in 2013. Currently, in addition to his duties as Director, Dr. White serves on the board of directors for the Harris County Veterinary Medical Association and as a member of the Harris County Disaster Animal Management Task Force. When not working to protect the citizens of Harris County, Dr. White spends much of his spare time caring for sick and injured animals as an active VPH foster volunteer.

Susan Whitfield

Susan joined Friends of CountyPets to promote responsible pet ownership. She believes it's important for a family to select a breed that suits their lifestyle and personality. Educating young people how to care for pets as family members and spay/neuter issues are also significant to Susan. She has been active in numerous community service organizations, which include the Junior League of Houston and River Oaks Garden Club. Susan served on the board of Houston Food Bank in the 1990's. Most recently, her volunteerism is with Friends of CountyPets, where she is Vice President of the board.



Dr. Umair A. Shah



In May 2013, Dr. Shah was appointed as the Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services (HCPHES) Executive Director and the Local Health Authority for Harris County, Texas – the third most populous county in the United States. Previously, Dr. Shah had served as HCPHES Deputy Director and its Director of Disease Control & Clinical Prevention since 2004. Prior to joining HCPHES, he was an emergency department physician at Houston’s Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and Chief Medical Officer at the Galveston County Health District. He remains engaged in clinical patient care, academic teaching, and is actively involved in the local Harris County community.



Lana Hughes

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Stay

Welcome 10:15am

Dr. Umair A. Shah	HCPHES Executive Director
Lana Hughes	News 92 Anchor, Animal Activist
Dr. Michael White	Director, HCPHES Veterinary Public Health Division
Susan Whitfield	Vice President, Friends of CountyPets

Meet 10am-12pm

- Learn more about how VPH helps you and your pet
- See how Friends of CountyPets supports VPH
- Check out our 100+ rescue and transfer partners

Learn 10:30am-12pm

- **Meet the Animal Control Officers (ACO):** See what our Animal Control Trucks look like and find out what it’s like to be an ACO.
- **Unfamiliar Dogs:** What do you do when a dog you don’t know comes up to you? We’ll show you how to be safe when interacting with unfamiliar dogs.
- **Training a Shelter Dog:** Sit? Stay? Roll over?...Shelter dogs can be at all levels of behavioral development when they get adopted, but we can show you some basic training tips and tricks.
- **Behind the Scenes Tour of VPH:** Check out our animal shelter and see how we care for the thousands of animals in Harris County. Tours every 20 minutes beginning at 10:30am.

Welcome

- 1 Welcome Area, Refreshments, Information, Media Check-in
- 2 Welcome Ceremony @ 10:15
- 3 Ribbon Cutting @ 10:30

Meet

- 4 Meet VPH, Friends of CountyPets and our Adoption/Transfer Partners @ 10-12

Learn

- 5 Shelter Dog Training @ 10:30-12
- 6 Approaching Unfamiliar Dogs @ 10:30-12
- 7 Meet our Animal Control Officers
- 8 VPH Shelter Tours (every 20 mins)
@ 10:30
@ 10:50
@ 11:10
@ 11:30
@ 11:50

CountyPets Playground Grand Opening

