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## TDA Now Accepting Applications for Spay/Neuter Grants

### *Grants Funded From Animal Friendly License Plate Sales*

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – The Tennessee Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications for animal spay/neuter grants. The grants supports low cost spay/neuter programs in Tennessee and are funded through *Animal Friendly* license plate sales.

“The grant program makes responsible pet owner services available to many who otherwise would be unable to afford them,” said State Veterinarian Ron Wilson. “The *Animal Friendly* license tags are helping control the number of unwanted animals and we are proud that it enjoys such good public support.”

Every *Animal Friendly* license plate sale contributes more than \$15 to fund the grants. Last year, \$190,000 was awarded to a total of 46 different non-profit organizations and government agencies and another \$190,000 has been allocated for this year.

In 2007, more than 4,300 animals benefited from the services performed because of these grants. Reducing the number of unwanted animals also helps reduce cases of animal cruelty, starvation and lowers the instances of disease.

Grant applications for non-profit organizations and government agencies are available at <http://tn.gov/agriculture/regulate/animals/spayneuter.html> and are due by June 2. Once received, a committee of animal professionals will meet and make recommendations of recipients. Grant recipients will receive notification of awards in July.

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