

## ANIMAL RESCUE EXPO MARCH 15, 2025 11 AM - 4 PM

## UW SPORTS FACTORY • 305 S. MADISON STREET • ROCKFORD, IL

We're thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for registered 501(c)3 vendors who are making a difference in our community to be a part of our first inaugural Animal Rescue Expo (ARE) on March 15, 2025.

Register and pay in full for your vendor spot by January 1st, and you'll be automatically entered to win one of TWO \$500 donations! This is your chance to boost your fundraising efforts and further your mission.

Here's how to win:

Be a registered 501(c)3 organization.

Register and pay in full for your vendor spot by January 1st.

Cross your fingers! We'll announce the lucky winners on March 15th at 4:00 pm. Must be present to win.

Don't miss this incredible chance to gain financial support for your cause!

Contact the Expo Director, Lisa Beardsworth at <u>lisabeardsworth43@gmail.com</u> or at 815-298-1300 with any immediate questions. Thank you.

## **2025 VENDOR AGREEMENT & PROCEDURES**

This exposition promotes rescue animals, therefore we only allow animals that are currently in rescues or shelters, or animals that have been pulled from such. No breeders please. Our first priority is the safety and well-being of the animals. Therefore, all pets adopted must be taken off premises immediately to avoid any potential conflict with other animals or people at the show. All adoptable cats/dogs must be spayed/neutered before adoption.

Vendor booths are on a first come, first served basis. Be sure to apply early to get the best spots and avoid missing out. No refunds after February 15th and no checks accepted after March 1st.

Each 10' x 10' booth rental includes one 8' skirted table with two chairs, 36" high side rails and 1 complimentary booth identification sign with your organization's name and booth number. If you do not need a table or chairs, or if you need electricity, please note as such on your application. Booths will be assigned and posted to the list of exhibitors on <u>www.animalrescueexpo.com</u>, only after FULL payment has been made. The expo team reserves the right to reassign booth space based on show needs.

The number of pet treat vendors will be limited based upon the final show size. We further reserve the right to refuse applications.

Exhibitor Move-in will be on Friday, March 14th between 4pm - 6pm sharp and Saturday, March 15th between 8am – 10:30am. Show begins at 11am so we ask everyone to be ready by 10:30am. Exhibitors must agree to arrange their booths so as not to obstruct the general view or hide exhibits of others. NO EX-PENS or crates will be allowed in any aisle or outside of your booth space. An ex-pen can be best accommodated with a double booth. Please bring only the number of animals that can safely fit within your booth space.

No puppies or kittens less than 8 weeks (12 weeks strongly encouraged) old. You may be asked to show proof of age and vaccination history. Be prepared to do this. No females in heat.

Free parking for all. Vehicles will be allowed up to the doors for unloading and loading only and must be moved ASAP to keep traffic moving during set up and tear down.

Human food and beverages are not allowed to be brought in or sold. Personal bottles of water are acceptable. UW Sports Factory has a full service restaurant, bar and concession stand located inside for food and beverage purchases during the hours of the expo.

Vendor entrance on Friday night and Saturday morning may use entrance D or the main entrance. ALL animals on Saturday must be brought through entrance D as the main entrance between 11am -4pm on Saturday will be for patrons only. Vendors will be given two wristbands for each booth rented for staff working the booth. If you have more than two people, we suggest you rent additional booth space. Any exhibitor not staffing their booths or pulling out early will not be invited to participate in future years.

Acceptance of exhibit space makes it obligatory on the part of the exhibitor and his/her employees that he/she or they shall not deface, injure, or mar the UW Sports Factory, and any damage done shall be made good by them to Lisa's Little Rescue's efforts. No pinning or hanging banners on the walls of the venue. Please use free-standing banners or photos/advertisements on easels or table-tops. Please clean up after your dogs and animals in your care immediately.

Exhibitors wishing to insure their goods must do so at their own expense. Lisa's Little Rescue (LLR) assumes no responsibility for the safety of the property of the exhibitor, its officers, agents, or employees, from theft, damage by fire, accident, or other causes, but will assume all reasonable care to protect them against such loss. By participating in the show, exhibitors displaying live animals agree to carry insurance protecting themselves from any claims arising from incidents connected with the live animals in display. LLR shall not be liable for incidents which may arise from the display of live animals. Please use discretion when deciding what animal(s) to bring. Animals must be in good health and free of fleas and parasites. We reserve the right to ask an exhibitor to remove their animal if the animal is showing any signs of aggression, fear, anxiety or the like.

The expo committee reserves the right to restrict exhibits which, because of noise, or for any other reasons, become objectionable, and also to prohibit which, in their judgment, may detract from the general character of the



show. This reservation includes persons, things, conduct, printed matter, or anything of a character which might be objectionable to the exhibit as a whole.

The Animal Rescue Expo and UW Sports Factory shall not be liable for the non-delivery of space if non-delivery is due to one of the following causes: by reason of the building being destroyed by fire, act of God, public enemy strikes, the authority of the Law, or any cause beyond their control.

Cancellations must be received by February 15, 2025 for a full refund. NO refunds after February 15<sup>th</sup>. You may not "sell" or give away your space to anyone else. Canceled space will be offered to the first party on the waiting list. Refunds will not be given regardless of whether your space is resold or not. Exhibit space may be reassigned based on the needs of the show.

Please know that Animal Rescue Expo will not share or sell your information.

In order to participate in the two \$500 donation drawings for a not-for-profit organization, you must include your EIN number on your application and that EIN number must correlate with the name of your organization.