

# March 2020 Newsletter



**The mission of the New Hampshire Animal Rights League is to work for the fair treatment of all animals in New Hampshire and beyond. We are an all-volunteer organization working on behalf of animals since 1977.**

## State Legislation for Animals

- HB 1164 will create a Court Appointed Advocates program to assist prosecutors and judges with appropriate charges and sentencing in animal cruelty cases, Executive Session, House Judiciary, **defeated** in the House
- HB 1387, prohibiting the declawing of cats, **defeated** in the House, hope to see this bill again next year!
- HB 1389, regarding criminal penalties for failing to provide adequate food, water and shelter, **defeated** in the House
- HB 1504, creating a study committee on recreational trapping, in Committee ( Fish, Game & Marine Resources) **defeated**
- HB 1606, including wildlife for protection under our animal cruelty statute, **Ought To Pass with Amendment**, FG & MR Committee, referred to Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
- HB 1123, regarding reporting motor vehicle collisions with cats, **passed** with amendment in the House
- HB 1391, prohibiting discrimination in housing against people with pets, in House Judiciary Committee **tabled/defeated**
- HB 1571, regarding qualifications of Fish and Game Commissioners, in FG & MR Committee **defeated** in the House
- HB 1381, regarding children, vulnerable people and animals left in hot cars, in House Judiciary Committee **defeated** in the House
- SB 588, prohibiting wildlife killing contests, in Committee **passed** in the Senate, now goes to the House
- HB 1388, prohibiting the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits in retail stores, **defeated** in the House
- HB1683, prohibiting tail docking and ear cropping, **defeated** in the House
- HB 1602, creating a registry of people convicted of animal cruelty, **defeated** in the House
- HB 1630, reversing last year's progress in requiring greater oversight of pet vendors, if it passes in the House it will never pass in the Senate! **passed** in the House
- HB 1560, relative to the criminal penalties for certain negligent actions which cause the death of an animal -- **passed** in the House!

At this time of year, the status of bills changes daily, so for the most up-to-date information, do a Quick Search by bill number on the state's website ( [www.nh.gov](http://www.nh.gov)) and check the bill's docket. If a bill has come out of Committee, you will also see a reference on the bill docket to the House Journal date and page number where the decision of the Committee is briefly explained. All testimony and notes recorded by the Committee Secretary at the public hearings are a public record, kept indefinitely, and are available through the Committee office or the State Archives.

If you have any questions, please contact: Jean at [jeans1155@hotmail.com](mailto:jeans1155@hotmail.com).

## 2019 Year Review

**Every year, New Hampshire Animal Rights League advocates for animals in many different ways. Below is an outline of the work we did in 2019. Thank you to everyone who joined and supported our efforts.**

- WRATH (Worldwide Rally Against Trophy Hunting) took place in Concord on January 12th in windy, 20-degree weather. About 14 people braved the frigid wind and held signs at the corner of Loudon Road and Hazen Drive. NHARL was the local rally leader, and WRATH events were simultaneously held throughout the world. The nonprofit animal advocacy organization Compassion Works International produces the Worldwide Rally to raise awareness about the ego-driven and senseless murder of countless wild animals by members of Safari Club International and other "trophy hunters." Cecil, the lion, we will never forget you!
- Many NHARL members attended the hearing in late January to introduce HB442, the Coyote Protection Bill. They were very active contacting legislators and advocating for this legislation. Unfortunately, the bill was defeated in March.
- PROTEST PUPPY MILLS was hosted by NHARL and Voice for Animals Maine and New Hampshire on March 22nd outside Little Shop of Pets in Portsmouth. This event was repeated monthly beginning in May through year's end.
- The 7th ANNUAL NH VEGFEST on April 20 was sponsored by NHARL and several other groups at Manchester Community College.
- A protest against trapping was held the same day as NH VegFest at Discover Wild NH Day in Concord, hosted by NHARL.
- A week later, PROTEST MISS NH's ACCEPTANCE OF A FUR COAT was hosted by NHCART, NHARL, Twin States Animal Liberation Outreach, and Anonymous for the Voiceless outside the Stockbridge Theatre in Derry.
- NHARL tabled and unfurled its new "Go Vegan!" tablecloth on May 4th at the Souhegan Sustainability Fair in Wilton.
- The UNH Animal Welfare Alliance Pet Fair also occurred on May 4th and NHARL tabled and gave out vegan food samples from Susty's Restaurant. Proceeds from the event went to SAFER CATS in Hampton.
- On May 14th, NHARL voted to add its name to the letter to congress urging current animal welfare laws be enforced. The letter was sponsored by the Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation.
- Mountain Vegfest was held on July 13th in Lebanon and NHARL was there tabling.
- Liberation 4 Lolita in Portsmouth took place in late July and included a march through downtown and speeches in Market Square while similar events were held worldwide.
- In early August, NHARL's annual vegan summer outing was well-attended, as people from places near and far converged on Four-Tree Island in Portsmouth.
- Toward the end of August, NHARL members helped quash the planned New Castle Deer Kill.
- The NH Animal Protection Caucus held its inaugural meeting on August 27th, with NHARL members attending.
- Walk with the Animals was held on September 22nd. NHARL tabled.
- Emily Murphy gave her vegan presentation to the students at UNH in Durham on November 5th.
- A Living Shores Aquarium Protest was held November 9th in Glen, hosted by NHARL and Until Lolita is Home.
- NHARL's annual Gentle Vegan Thanksgiving and meeting took place on November 23rd at the Newmarket Polish American Club. This event featured guest speaker Pattrice Jones, co-founder of VINE Sanctuary in Vermont. Pattrice gave an excellent presentation titled "If Turkeys were our Tour Guides."
- Fur Free Friday is a worldwide event that takes place on the Friday after Thanksgiving. This year's demonstration took place outside of the Miss New Hampshire office in Derry New Hampshire. The event combined anti-trapping with exposing Miss New Hampshire's acceptance of a fur coat by NH trappers every year.

## COVID-19 Through the Lens of an Animal Rights Advocate

As animal rights advocates, our experience of the COVID-19 pandemic likely differs from that of the average person. Along with feeling all the usual emotions and fears, we may also be deeply saddened to learn of yet another form of animal cruelty brought to light by the pandemic.

What took place in the market in Wuhan, China where the virus is believed to have first been transmitted from an animal to a human was barbaric. And yet we know that our own culture has sanctioned forms of barbarism as well. The factory-farmed chickens shackled upside down and slaughtered in view of their flock mates are arguably no better treated than the victims of China's wild meat markets.

Adding to our anguish, viral outbreaks such as COVID-19 are often accompanied by the mass killing of animals believed to be carrying the virus. During the SARS outbreak in 2009, Chinese authorities ordered the destruction of 10,000 civets, even without proof that these animals were the direct source of the virus. Their deaths were not quick and painless.

In the United States, the mass killing of diseased animals on farms is a routine occurrence. Mainstream reporting of such events invariably focuses on the hardship to the farmer, never mentioning the suffering of sick and dying animals.

We have a lot in common with pigs, and they likely experience symptoms of flu much the same way we do. In "Esther the Wonder Pig," the story of a rescued factory farm pig, Esther's guardian describes a time when Esther wasn't feeling well and was later diagnosed with the flu. Esther was listless, picky at her food, and walked slowly hanging her head low, he explained, adding, "She looked exactly how I feel when I'm sick."

Those of us who care about animal suffering hope that the gravity of the COVID-19 pandemic makes it the event that brings mainstream awareness to the myriad threats connected with eating animals — from bacterial infections caused by inadvertently ingesting their feces, to novel viruses that pass from their slaughtered bodies to ours, to diseases that arise from the dangerous co-mingling of farmed and wild animals as we clear forested land for livestock, to the lifestyle diseases linked to eating animal flesh and secretions, and, finally, to the rise of antibiotic-resistant infections driven by excessive use of antibiotics on farms.

It's an opportune time to help your not-yet-vegan friends and family members make the connection. Next time someone sends you an article related to COVID-19, reply with a link to Earthling Ed's video: "Coronavirus is just the start. Something far worse is coming" (<https://www.surgeactivism.org/blog/coronavirus>)



### NHARL Farmed Animal Committee

New for 2020, NHARL has formed a Farmed Animal Committee. Because animals raised for meat, eggs, and milk represent more than 95% of the animals killed by humans in this country, farm animals desperately need our advocacy. Actions the committee has discussed so far include stepping up our work to promote veganism and seeking better protections for farmed animals through legislation and political action. Want to be involved? Contact Joan O'Brien

## Three Ingredient Vegan Dog Treats

<https://theplantphilosophy.com/diy-3-ingredient-vegan-dog-treats/>

### Ingredients

1 cup Oat or Rice Flour, any works  
2 ripe Bananas, mashed  
1/4 cup Peanut Butter, smooth (unsweetened, with no Xylitol)

### Instructions

1. Peel the bananas and mash them with the peanut butter until smooth.
2. Measure and pour in the flour, adding half at a time. Mix until evenly combined, and then add the remaining half.
3. Fold together until combined. Use your hands as needed to form a solid ball of dough.
4. Chill the dough for 20 minutes (optional, but it helps firm up the dough).
5. Remove the dough from the fridge and place on parchment paper or a well-floured surface.
6. Preheat the oven to 325° F.
7. Roll out the dough to a 1/3-1/2 inch thickness.
8. Using a cookie cutter, cut out shapes as desired.
9. Transfer the cookies to a parchment-lined baking sheet.
10. Use a fork to poke 4 holes in the center of each, to allow steam to escape.
11. Bake for 30-35 minutes.
12. Remove and let completely cool before transferring to an air-tight container.
13. Give to your pup as desired!

## Benefits of a Vegan Diet for Dogs

Did you know that a quarter of all the meat consumed in the United States is eaten by our pets? As a major contributor to the demand for animal products, the pet food industry needs our attention. Although you'd never guess it from a walk down the pet food aisle of the supermarket, unlike their wolf ancestors, dogs are not carnivores. Dogs can not only survive, but thrive on a vegan diet. Health benefits of a vegan diet for dogs include: (1) allergy-friendly—the most common food allergies in dogs are chicken, beef, dairy, and eggs, (2) easily digestible, (3) anti-inflammatory—which can relieve joint pain and arthritis, (4) energy boosting, and (5) low in calories—to help with weight maintenance. See v-dog.com for more information.

## Letter to the Editor—Valley News, by Julie Püttgen

Over the months, I've noticed a pattern rattling around the edges of your news coverage, whenever animals are mentioned. Sometimes, even if context makes the animal's gender obvious, the creature is referred to as "it." This happens often with wild animals, but sometimes also with companion and farmed animals. Elsewhere, typically when an individual animal has tugged on human heart-strings, "he" or "she" is used. The deer trapped on the ice in Claremont graduated from "it" to "she" overnight in the Valley News, presumably because enough humans became concerned about her plight. I recommend that the Valley News resolve this inconsistency by committing to using more respectful "he/his" or "she/hers" pronouns in all animal-related stories. And when the animal's gender is not known, voila! A perfect opportunity to practice using the singular "they."

Language and ethics are intertwined. This seemingly small change can help open the door to common sense compassion in all our communities.

## NHARL Board

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## Contact Us/Become a Member

To become a member or make a donation use the membership form at our website or send a check made out to NHARL to our PO Box. Yearly membership is \$20.00 and Students, Juniors, or Seniors are only \$10.00. Lifetime membership is \$200.00 for you and your spouse. Thank You!

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## Quote

*"In fact, if one person is unkind to an animal it is considered to be cruelty, but where a lot of people are unkind to animals, especially in the name of commerce, the cruelty is condoned and, once large sums of money are at stake, will be defended to the last by otherwise intelligent people."*

-- Ruth Harrison, author of Animal Machines