

## Finding Your Canine Companion

- There are countless breeds of dogs available for adoption through rescues, shelters, and humane societies. It is estimated that as many as 25% of rescue/shelter dogs are purebred.
- By researching and choosing to adopt from one of many rescue/shelter groups, you can help end the inhumane cruelty associated with the puppy mill industry, whilst at the same time, helping reduce the unnecessary euthanizing of healthy animals.



Her painful skin disease will go untreated.

- If you choose to purchase your dog from a breeder, be sure to research the breeder and their reputation. Ask for references. Make several visits and insist on seeing the mother nursing her puppies. Ask to see the purchasing contract. Ask about the return policy and written health guarantee.
- Ask how many litters the mother has had. Two, maximum three, is all she should have had.

**Please Do Your Homework.**

## About Us

Pupymill Awareness Working Solutions (PAWS) is a volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to education and raising public awareness regarding the cruelty and abuse associated with puppy mills and the selling of puppy mill puppies via the internet, newspaper advertising, and pet stores.

Through education and awareness, we empower individuals to make informed and ethical choices when choosing a companion animal.

PAWS fully supports and promotes the foster and/or adoption of homeless animals via non-profit rescue organizations.

Please  
adopt a dog.

Rescues and shelters  
are overflowing with healthy  
dogs waiting for a home.



*Disclaimer:*

*All information contained herein is the sole opinion of PAWS intended to provide general public information.*

KNOW BETTER. DO BETTER.

# PAWS

Pupymill Awareness Working Solutions

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Liberty  
A Quebec puppy mill survivor

May the immeasurable kindness of some surpass  
the immeasurable cruelty of others ©

## What is a Puppy Mill?

- The term “puppy mill” refers to large-scale commercial breeding facilities that mass-produce many breeds of puppies factory-style, focusing solely on profit.
- Designed to maximize profit, the breeding dogs are forced to suffer through continuous breeding cycles, generally with little care given to health or genetic defects.
- These dogs typically exist in makeshift cramped and unsanitary cages (usually very small wire cages) with little or no chance to play, exercise or learn how to socialize with humans or other dogs. They exist as prisoners their entire lives.



This is her miserable existence 24/7, to be bred over and over.

- Many of these dogs are unable to fully stand due to a lifetime of confinement. This can often result in other health and/or behaviour issues.
- They rarely, if ever, receive veterinary care.
- Many develop infectious illnesses/diseases which are often passed onto their puppies.
- When the breeding dogs' fertility wanes, it is not uncommon that they are auctioned, sold to rescue groups, abandoned, or killed.

## “But I’m Saving that Puppy!”

- Puppy Mills remain in business due to consumer supply and demand, with 99% of pet store puppies coming from puppy mills.
- Consumers unknowingly contribute to the problem by purchasing pets through:

### Pet Stores - The Internet - Newspaper Ads



She’s been sick most of her life and they continue to breed her. Then she will die.



Her babies will be taken from her before they are properly weaned. She will be nursing or pregnant her whole life—she’s so tired.

You are not saving a puppy by buying it from a disreputable or anonymous source. You are condemning the mother to endure further suffering in a puppy mill.

## Help End Puppy Mills

- **Educate** your friends and family with what you’ve learned about puppy mills;
- **NEVER** buy a puppy from a pet store or the internet.
- **Only** support pet stores that do not sell live animals.
- **Volunteer** your time at a rescue/shelter;
- **Adopt** or foster from a rescue/shelter group.
- **Help** advertise—purchase a bumper magnet.



She is lucky. She was rescued.

- **Write** to local politicians asking them to strengthen animal cruelty laws, and shut down puppy mills.
- **Report** witnessed accounts of suspected puppy mill or backyard breeding activity to your local Humane Society or SPCA.
- **Donate.**

**Please Do Your Homework.**