

2009 Animal Observances



January

Walk Your Pet Month

2: Happy Mew Year for Cats Day*

14: National Dress Up Your Pet Day

February

National Pet Dental Month [AVMA, American Veterinary Dental Society, Academy of Veterinary Dentistry, American Veterinary Dental College, Hill's Pet Nutrition]

National Bird-Feeding Month [National Bird-Feeding Society]

Responsible Pet Owners Month

1: Serpent Day*

2: Groundhog Day*

2: Hedgehog Day*

12: Safety Pup Day

13-16: Great Backyard Bird Count Week [National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology]

20: Love Your Pet Day*

22: Walking the Dog Day*

23: International Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day*

24: Spay Day (4th Tuesday) [Doris Day Animal Foundation, HSUS]



March

Gardening, Nature and Ecology Books Month

National Nutrition Month

1: National Pig Day*

1-7: Professional Pet Sitters Week (1st full week) [Pet Sitters International]

15-21: National Poison Prevention Week (3rd week) [ASPCA, National Animal Poison Control Center]

20: International Earth Day (always on spring equinox, sometimes it lands on the 21st)

22: World Water Day* [United Nations General Assembly]

April

National Frog Month

National Garden Month [National Gardening Association]

National Pet First-Aid Awareness Month

Prevent Lyme Disease in Dogs Month [Meriel and the Lyme Disease Foundation]

Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month [ASPCA]

World Habitat Awareness Month

Zoo and Aquarium Month

1-6: National Scoop the Poop Week (1st week beginning with the 1st) [Association of Professional Animal Waste Specialists]

2: National Ferret Day

4: World Rat Day*

7: National Pet Health Insurance Day* [Veterinary Pet Insurance]

12-18: National Pet ID Week (3rd week)

22: Earth Day (observed, official Earth Day is in March)

25: World Veterinary Day (last Saturday) [World Vet Association]

26: National Pet Parent's Day (last Sunday) [Veterinary Pet Insurance]



26: International Day of the Dog (last Sunday)

27: National Hairball Awareness Day* [Hill's Pet Nutrition]

May

Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month

Be Kind to Animals Month

Chip Your Pet Month [HomeAgain, Schering-Plough]

Clean Air Month

Go Fetch! Food Drive for Homeless Animals Month

National Pet Month (mainly recognized in U.K., but also seen in U.S.)

3-9: National Pet Week (1st week) [AVMA]

4: Respect for Chickens Day

9: Animal Disaster Preparedness Day (2nd Saturday)

9: International Migratory Bird Day (2nd Saturday) [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service]

13: Frog Jumping Day*

15: Hug Your Cat Day*

17-23: National Dog Bite Prevention Week (3rd week) [AVMA]

23: World Turtle Day*

June

National Adopt a Shelter Cat Month [ASPCA]

National Zoo and Aquarium Month

5: World Environment Day*

7-13: Pet Appreciation Week (1st week)

14: World Pet Memorial Day (2nd Sunday)

14-20: Take Your Pet to Work Week (3rd week)

19: Take Your Dog to Work Day (3rd Friday) [Pet Sitters International and Pedigree Jumbone brand]



July

National Water Gardening Month

5: World Environment Day*

15: Cow Appreciation Day

19-25: National Independent Retailers Week

31: National Mutt Day*

August

13: National Assistance Dog Day (2nd Thursday) [Working Like Dogs]

30: National Holistic Pet Day*

September

National Chicken Month

Pet Health Insurance Month (in Canada) [observed by Vetinsurance and PetSecure]

Pet Smile Month

Senior Care Health Month [Iams, Pfizer Animal Health]

World Animal Remembrance Month

5: National Hummingbird Day (1st Saturday)

13: National Pet Memorial Day (2nd Sunday) [International Association of Pet Cemeteries]

19: Responsible Dog Ownership Day (3rd Saturday) [American Kennel Club]

26: International Rabbit Day (4th Saturday) [originated in United Kingdom]

28: World Rabies Day* [Alliance for Rabies Control (United Kingdom) initiated it; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is a founding partner]

29: National Goose Day*

October

National Adopt a Shelter Dog Month [ASPCA]

National Animal Safety and Protection Month [Emergency Animal Rescue Service]

National Pet Wellness Month [AVMA, Fort Dodge Animal Health]

National Squirrel Awareness Month [The Squirrel Lover's Club]

Vegetarian Awareness Month [Earthsave]

1: World Vegetarian Day* [Earthsave]

4: World Animal Day*

TBA: National Veterinary Technician Week [NAVTA]

18-24: National Feral Cat Day* [Alley Cat Allies]

21: Reptile Awareness Day*

TBA: National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (always in October but week varies and is not determined until later in the year) [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; ASPCA recognizes]

26: National Mule Day*

November

Adopt a Senior Pet Month [ASPCA]

Adopt a Turkey Month [Farm Sanctuary]

American Diabetes Month

Pet Cancer Awareness Month [Veterinary Pet Insurance]

Pet Diabetes Month [Intervet]

Vegan Month

1: World Vegan Day* [The Vegan Society]

13: World Kindness Day

TBA: European Veterinary Week [European Commission, Federation of Veterinarians of Europe and the French Presidency]

December

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

13: National Day of the Horse* [designated by Congress in 2004]

15: Cat Herders Day*

21: World Peace Day*



*Signifies observances on the same month and day every year.

Key:

ASPCA: American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

AVMA: American Veterinary Medical Association

HSUS: Humane Society of the United States

NAVTA: North American Veterinary Technician Association

Sources:

Brownielocks—www.brownielocks.com

ButlerWebs.com—

www.butlerwebs.com/holidays/default.htm

Deaf Dog Education Action Fund—
www.deafdogs.org/faq/calendar.php

Holiday Insights—holidayinsights.com

Petroglyphs—www.petroglyphsnm.org

