

Animal Shelter To Transport 43 Dogs To N.Y. For Adoption Event

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Forty-three dogs of all shapes and sizes will be leaving the Hall County Animal Shelter Wednesday evening to find loving homes at an adoption event in New York.

The dogs will be taken to the "NY Pet Super Adoption" event in White Plains, N.Y. as part of the Hall County Animal Shelter's Transport Program. The program provides a way for homeless animals in Hall County to be transported to areas of the country (usually New England) where there is a shortage of adoptable animals. This will be the eighth large-sized trip for the transport program, which usually makes between three and four trips each year.

Hall County Animal Shelter Veterinarian Dr. Meghan Seabolt said the 43 dogs transported from Hall County will be among 700 pets up for adoption during the weekend event, hosted by the Best Friends Animal Society.

"We're the group that travels the farthest to attend, and we're also the only municipal shelter that participates in events like this," she said.

All of the dogs being transported to New York have been quarantined for two weeks prior to the trip. They have also had a thorough medical examination, received their vaccinations and have been tested for various diseases. This ensures a healthy adoption experience for all involved.

"The shelter staff has worked really, really hard to get ready for the event," Seabolt said. "It takes weeks of planning and preparation to pull it together."

Members of the Hall County Animal Shelter Volunteer Advisory Board have also been involved in preparing the pets for transport, helping to bathe the dogs this week prior to the trip. The advisory board, which is made up of six longtime shelter volunteers, is charged with organizing volunteer and donor efforts for the shelter.

The Hall County Animal Shelter is located at 1688 Barber Road in Gainesville. Shelter hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The adoption fee is \$85 and covers the cost of spaying/neutering, microchipping, vaccinations, de-worming and a combination test for cats. For more information about the Hall County Animal Shelter, log on to hallcounty.org.