



City of
Los Banos
At the Crossroads of California

LOS BANOS POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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February 1, 2013

**Los Banos Volunteers for Animals Group Aspires to
Reach a 90% Save Rate**

The Los Banos Volunteers for Animals group is comprised of 15 members of the Community who share a passion for caring and rescuing domestic animals. These volunteers invest a number of hours every day helping the dogs and cats that come into the Los Banos Police Departments Animal Shelter each year. Last year, the shelter took in approximately 2237 dogs and cats which were fed and cared for by members of the Police Department and Los Banos Volunteers for Animals group.

During 2012, the Los Banos Volunteers for Animals saved approximately 70% of the animals that were brought into the shelter. This amounted to 1581 stray dogs and cats. These animals were either sent to rescues, adopted by local families, or reunited with their owners. A majority of the remaining animals were euthanized after attempts to rescue or adopt them were unsuccessful.

Many of the dogs running loose are driven by their mating instincts which can be eliminated by having pets spayed and neutered. Each year the Los Banos Volunteers for Animals offers clinics and vouchers for discounted spaying and neutering of dogs and cats. The Police Department also offers a spay and neuter program that begins each year in July. The funds for this program come from fees charged during animal releases from the Los Banos Animal Shelter. Both programs are very successful and allow pet owners to spay or neuter their pets at discounted rates.

“Owning a dog or cat is a big responsibility. Most pet owners don’t realize how important it is to spay or neuter your animal, and the impact an unwanted litter of puppies or kittens can have over time. Eventually those unwanted animals reproduce and sadly the population of unwanted animals grows.”

-Ray Reyna, Police Commander

“Our community can do better at helping these amazing loving animals. Spaying and neutering pets, more local adoptions from the Los Banos Shelter and educating owners to properly restrain their pets will greatly reduce the number of animals that must be put down.”

- Los Banos Volunteers for Animals

Animals available for adoption are pictured on Petfinders.com, Craigslist and Facebook under Los Banos Volunteers for Animals. The Los Banos Animal Shelter is located near the Los Banos Airport at 1000 Airport Road near the intersection of West I Street and Pacheco Boulevard. Volunteers can be reached by telephone at (209) 827-7089 and donations are always welcomed. To learn more about becoming involved in the Los Banos Volunteers for Animals organization contact Officer Noah Jones at (209) 827-7070 ext. 129.

To leave an anonymous crime tip call **209-827-7070 Ext. 288**. If you have access to a computer and the internet you can also leave an anonymous tip at the Police Department’s web page at www.losbanos.org. At the bottom of the “Contact” page simply click on the “report graffiti and other crime” link or visit the Merced Area Crime Stoppers by telephone at 1-855-725-2420, or at www.mercedareacrimestoppers.org

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