

Stacy Marquardt

From: Savage, Beth (Contractor) <beth.savage1@effem.com> on behalf of Mars Petcare US <MarsPetcareUS@effem.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:48 AM
To: Stacy Marquardt
Subject: Your BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ assessment
Attachments: Report - Princeton MN.pdf

You don't often get email from marspetcareus@effem.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Princeton team,

Thank you very much for applying for Princeton to be a BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ Certified City. The city doesn't yet pass our benchmarks for certification, but we were glad to learn about Princeton's commitment to pets and being a pet-friendly community.

Plus, having completed the assessment, your city is eligible to apply for a grant through the BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ program. I'm not sure if you have a [grant application](#) underway, but if so, you are confirmed as meeting the assessment requirement.

We hope that as you continue to implement pet-friendly programs and policies, you will re-apply in the future and be certified. We are happy to re-look at your assessment anytime.

Your current assessment report is attached and shows the city's results and some ideas for actions to consider. We also hope you'll explore the tools at [BetterCitiesForPets.com](#) to help map out next steps for continuing to increase Princeton's pet friendliness.

Please let us know any questions you might have, and thank you again for the work you are doing to be a great place for pets and pet parents.

Sincerely,

Beth

from the BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ program team at Mars Petcare



BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ PROGRAM ASSESSMENT REPORT

PRINCETON, MN

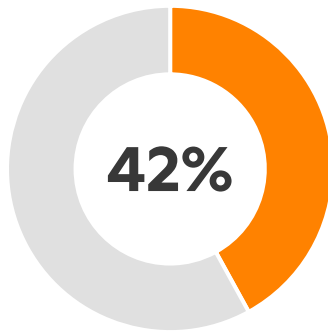
Thanks!

On behalf of pets and people in your city, thanks again for filling out the BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ assessment. You're on your way to more pet-friendly policies and practices already. Here's what your assessment shows.

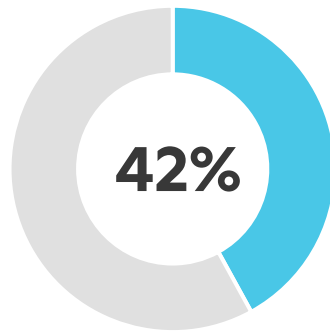
RESULTS SUMMARY & SCORES

Your total score doesn't yet qualify to be a Certified City in the BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ program, **but we are excited you're taking action to get there in the future.**

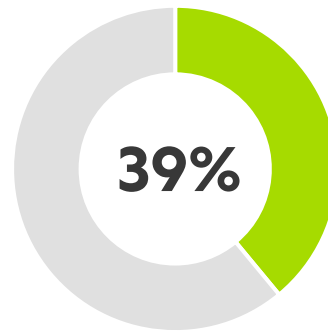
Here's how you scored:



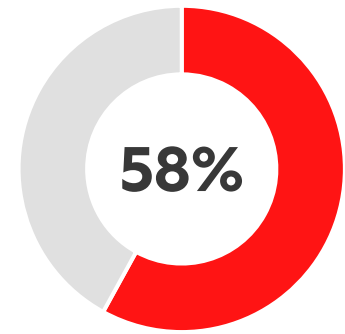
Shelters



Homes



Parks



Businesses



STRENGTHS

Your city is happier and healthier because of pet-friendly traits like these:

1. Your city's animal shelters are warm, welcoming places people want to visit to take home a pet.
2. Your city doesn't have breed bans or other significant restrictions for pet ownership.
3. People in your city have pet-friendly housing options with minimal restrictions or unreasonable fees.
4. Your city has pet-friendly green spaces for people and pets to get healthy exercise and connect with each other.
5. Pet amenities like waste stations and drinking water fountains are available in at least some areas of your city.
6. Some businesses in your community welcome pets.
7. Your city is supportive of pet-friendly workplaces, so people can enjoy the many benefits pets bring.
8. Participating in this assessment shows you're committed to make pets part of the conversation in your city.



OPPORTUNITIES

Here are ideas for where you could focus attention to be even more pet-friendly:

1. Make it easy for pet owners to find pet amenities, program and policy information on your city website.
2. Add educational programming about responsible pet ownership, avoiding dog bites and other topics.
3. Build a coalition to get the greatest impact with the shelter and animal welfare resources available in your city.
4. Engage local animal welfare groups to make sure safety net programs exist and are well-known, so people can get help before giving up pets in tough times.
5. Make pets part of your city's disaster relief planning and communications.
6. Talk with local homeless and/or domestic violence shelters about allowing pets to avoid people having to choose between safety and their pets.
7. Update local ordinances that may stand in the way of pet-friendly businesses. For example, allow pets on restaurant patios.
8. Encourage a pet-friendly local business program with consistent guidelines and signage.



NEXT STEPS

Here are a few potential next steps as you continue your journey...

- 1. Educate about responsible pet ownership** on your social media and/or website. This is a low-cost way to consistently share information about avoiding dog bites, pet safety, etc. [You can find free resources on our site in this toolkit.](#)
- 2. Evaluate your local ordinances to make sure they support pets and pet parents and help end pet homelessness.** Here are [model ordinances](#) to help.
3. Engage local businesses in a [Pets Welcome program](#) with **consistent pet-friendly guidelines and signage**. This can be a great way to demonstrate support for pet-friendly programs and show citizens the city cares about pets.
- 4. Explore safety net opportunities** to help people facing barriers to keeping their pets. [This toolkit](#) shared by PEDIGREE Foundation and HASS can help.
5. Consider formalizing TNR in your city to **manage and support community cats**. Our [Community Cat Toolkit](#) can help.
6. Engage your Parks/Facilities department in a project to add **pet drinking fountains and relief areas** in public areas. Surveys on social media and at local events can help determine needed locations.



NEXT STEPS

(continued...)

Our Tools page has nearly 100 downloadable resources to help. Here are some of the most popular items you might want to explore:

- [Signage for Pet-Friendly Places Toolkit](#)
- [Helping Homeless Pets Toolkit](#)
- [Pets Welcome Toolkit](#)
- [Pets on Patios Toolkit](#)
- [PETS WORK AT WORK™ Toolkit](#)
- [Community Cat Toolkit](#)
- [Responsible Pet Ownership Communication Toolkit](#)
- [Pet-Friendly Housing Toolkit](#)
- [Emergency Planning Toolkit: Helping Citizens Be Ready for Emergencies with Pets](#)
- [Pet Behavior 101](#)
- [Happy Pet Handbook: Responsible Pet Ownership Guide](#)

We're here to help. You're welcome to update and re-submit your assessment as your efforts progress. Please don't hesitate to email us with any questions at info@bettercitiesforpets.com. We look forward to hearing about your continuing progress, and to Princeton becoming a Certified City in the future.