

Adopted August 27, 2002 Revised: October 29, 2002; April 11 2006, December 9, 2008; February 10, 2009; January 21, 2011; February 6, 2014; March 3, 2016; June 8, 2017; June 7, 2018; November 1, 2018; May 7, 2020

Great River Rescue EUTHANASIA POLICY

Great River Rescue does not euthanize healthy or treatable animals that are safe to handle or may be rehabilitated safely.

Method of Euthanasia The injection of sodium pentobarbital, prepared specifically for use as a euthanasia product, administered by a local veterinarian, is the only authorized method of euthanasia. Documentation of euthanasia will be verified by the veterinarian and filed with the animal's shelter papers.

Method of Disposal Great River Rescue will not provide animals, dead or alive, for dissection and/or vivisection, nor will euthanized animals be sold to biological supply companies. Animals will be buried or cremated and disposed of off shelter grounds.

If an animal is not suffering, or does not pose a significant safety risk to handlers, a meeting should be held among staff and Board specified committee members to discuss the matter of euthanasia.

Animal shelter staff, board members, government officials, volunteers, and members of the public should never be allowed to question, berate, or harass employees making a decision to euthanize. If it is truly believed that the policy has been violated, the matter will be addressed by the Executive Director, with full disclosure to the Board of Directors.

Final decision to euthanize lies with the Executive Director. Board consultation is not necessary in advance, however, full disclosure to the Board of Directors is required.