Behavior of Shelter Animals

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Each year animal shelters receive, care for, and rehome dogs, cats, and other animals. Even under the best of circumstances, however, shelters can be challenging environments for the animals that enter them. Often, animals are housed in close proximity in unfamiliar locations, sometimes with limited space and, typically, high noise levels. Additionally, shelter animals interact with many unfamiliar people and experience a lack of predictability and control in their daily lives. Some animals enter shelters with behavioral problems while others may develop or display problematic behaviors in the shelter.

This Special Issue, Behavior of Shelter Animals, will focus on the behavior of animals while they are in shelter environments. The goal is to provide information that will inform shelter programs and policies. We invite original research articles, critical reviews, and commentaries on topics such as efforts to reduce stress during sheltering, responses to enrichment, behavioral evaluations, individual differences in behavior, and behavioral issues such as resource guarding. Articles on dogs, cats, and other animals housed in shelters are welcome.

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Special Issue

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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