

Special Issue

Welfare of Shelter Animals

Message from the Guest Editor

We invite researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to contribute to a Special Issue of *Animals* focused on **animal welfare in animal shelters**. This Special Issue aims to problematize the concept of animal welfare in the shelter environment by including articles that tackle broader societal issues within the welfare framework. We hope to include articles that move beyond micro-level views of animal welfare by contextualizing the subject within a larger discussion about community, justice, and ethics. We especially hope to receive contributions from young scholars and scholars of color in order to include newer perspectives that could challenge our understanding of what animal shelters should be in the twenty-first century. We welcome original research, reviews, and case studies that address topics such as (but not limited to) the following:

- Euthanasia;
- Class and race;
- Compassion fatigue;
- Staff and volunteers;
- Enrichment and beyond;
- Behavioral assessments;
- Gender;
- Ethics and justice;
- Breed popularity;
- Shelter medicine;
- Community outreach;
- Housing;
- Open adoption;
- Open and closed access;
- Trauma recovery;
- Sanctuary and safe havens;
- Overpopulation ;
- "Problem breeds";
- Exotic animals.

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2026)



Animals

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Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 5.2
Indexed in PubMed



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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

Editor-in-Chief

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JCR - Q1 (Veterinary Sciences) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Veterinary)