LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Simple Solution
In the September/October issue, reader Lisa Eiteljorge Foss recommended an eco-friendly weed killer I’d like to try. Can you provide the measurements? Thank you for your help.

— ELJEAN D. FLATTERY, ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT

EDITOR’S NOTE
Hello, Ms. Flattery. Here’s what we’ve found works on shallow-rooted plants. But while it kills the greenery on deep-growth weeds, they will eventually grow back if not uprooted by hand: 1 gallon vinegar; 2 cups Epsom salt; ¼ cup dish soap.

I am sitting here reading my September/October issue. I’m 86 years old and discovered through your magazine that I’m never too old to learn. I love your magazine.

— RUBY DAVIS, AVENAL, CALIFORNIA

Your September/October issue was very uplifting. It made clear the breadth and depth of The HSUS and the myriad organizations with which you link arms. I applaud your efficiency and track record in making things better for all animals at home and abroad.

— MARTHA BAEZ, FORT MYERS, FLORIDA

UPDATES

AFTER FIVE YEARS ON THE RUN, puppy mill operators Janet and Ramon Barreto (“Breeding Grounds for Abuse,” July/August) were arrested in late August. They’ve been charged with multiple counts of child abuse and neglect and one count of manslaughter. According to the New Albany Gazette in Mississippi, they could face life in prison.

THE MINNESOTA COURT OF APPEALS delivered good news for a Minnesota neighborhood pushing back against a massive pig confinement facility that moved in next door (“Close to Home,” March/April). The court ruled in favor of The HSUS and local residents, holding that the state’s Department of Natural Resources erred in authorizing the facility to suck up 8 million gallons of local groundwater per year.

THIS ISSUE’S MUSE

ON THE SECOND DAY of a massive helicopter rescue in 1979, Cleveland Amory approached a group of burros in a corral. Amory, who founded HSUS affiliate The Fund for Animals, had arranged for 577 wild burros to be flown out of the Grand Canyon in slings after discovering the National Park Service’s plan to kill them. It was a little pregnant burro who broke the ice. “Friendly came up behind him and gently butted his back and then buried her head in his chest,” says Fund chair Marian Probst. “After that, everyone was able to get closer to the other burros.” That same year, Amory founded Black Beauty Ranch in Texas, where Friendly would live until her death in 2011. Whenever Amory visited, Friendly would cling to him, remembers former office manager Loree Roberts. And every morning, she’d be waiting for Roberts on the porch of the ranch director’s house. “She’d come up and almost hug you. She’d stand so close and just bend her body around you.” (Read more about these incredible, amiable equines on page 32).

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WE ASKED: YOU ANSWERED

Best friends, blankets, balls and more:
Our Facebook fans told us the one thing their pets would be sure to pack for an evacuation.

CHRISTOPHER CLARK  Sweetpea would pack me because I’m her world. She loves me more than I could imagine. I’m her toy, her cuddle buddy, her best friend and Dad (master). There’s really nothing else I could see her wanting to pack … unless she sees a cat. She loves cats.

PAMELA SHAPIRO  My Bernese mountain dog, Roxy, would take her best friend, our cat, Gem. Gem, on the other hand, would pack his food and dish.

SHANNON BARNESLEY  Probably the Harry Potter blanket I lent her one night. And by lent her one night, I mean she has decided that means it is hers and only hers for all time and gives you the evil eye if you try to move it.

TRUDY WONDER  Both of my boyz, Fez and Bleu, would take their harness and leash so walks could continue wherever we go.

BRITNEY-MARIE DUGAS  My boy Zuzu and I did an evacuation practice this weekend, when we went on a four-hour trip. He brought his rope and favorite blanket.

SHERRY JENSEN  His scarf. Xerxes always has to look his best.

JOANN MORRISON MORLAN  My cat, Steve, would take his Chapstick. Loves to roll it around the house.

ANGELA TURNER  Lucy would take her catnip banana. Never has a cat loved a catnip toy as much as Lucy loves her banana.

BRENTNEY COLE  My dog has a “Mutt Mat” that I take everywhere with him! That way no matter what surface we’re on (hard gravel, hot asphalt, etc.) he has a comfortable place to lay down and rest while being protected from the ground.

MARY ENGLISH O’MALLEY  Well, having evacuated multiple times with my cats due to hurricanes (and at one point, living in a Motel 6 for months with my two oldest girls following Hurricane Katrina), I would pack their food, treats, a litter box, litter, cat carriers and some of their toys. Also, I line their carriers with one of my husband’s dirty T-shirts. The cats get very jittery in the car and in a new location such as a hotel room and the smell of Daddy is reassuring to them.

AMY CASTELLETTI  My cat would need his monkey—his snuggle buddy since he was a tiny kitten.

CONNIE L. PARR  A piece of a torn blanket that she had as a puppy! She is a wonderful 10 yr old yellow Lab that grabs it any time there is a storm.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Flyball and dock-diving are two ways to exercise high-energy dogs (see page 41). What’s your secret for exhausting your tireless pet? Tell us at humanesociety.org/aafacebook.