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Athens Area Humane Society safely relocates all animals from overnight flooding

The shelter is suspending adoptions while cleanup continues

ATHENS, Ga. – The Athens Area Humane Society is actively working to address unexpected flooding overnight at the shelter. A pipe running through the building burst, causing water to flow throughout the main section of the shelter. The flooding affected the lower cat enclosures and multiple dog enclosures, causing slight damage to equipment and supplies in these areas.

Alarms went off to alert the team that a potential threat had occurred in the shelter, and employees acted quickly to respond, safely relocating nine cats and dogs. This is the first time since the opening of the shelter that an incident like this has occurred. While some of the animals experienced stress about relocation, none were harmed by the flooding.

"We are deeply thankful for the continued support of our Athens community, especially during unexpected challenges like this," said Cheryl McCormick, CEO of the Athens Area Humane Society. "Our staff and volunteers have shown incredible dedication to our animals, and we are extremely grateful for the quick response from the fire department."

AAHS has temporarily suspended adoptions as the recovery of the site is ongoing, and asks the community to refer to their list of items needed to be restocked as a result of water damage.

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About Athens Area Humane Society

The Athens Area Humane Society is an animal rescue service that has served Athens, Georgia, since it was established as a refuge for working horses in 1899. The Athens Area Humane Society hopes to lower the percentage of pets that are euthanized in shelters each year. Their mission is to rescue and assist animals by providing for their well-being and uniting them with loving families. They also provide a spay/neuter wellness clinic and a monthly vaccine clinic. Learn more at athenshumanesociety.org, and follow on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube.