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## LOCAL

# New Hampshire SPCA rescues 60 plus rabbits and five horses in two animal neglect cases

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STRATHAM – The New Hampshire SPCA Field Services Division recently rescued 60 rabbits from a home in Farmington as well as five horses and a mule from a residence in Pittsfield.

“The New Hampshire SPCA is always here for animals in need,” said Lisa Dennison, executive director of the New Hampshire SPCA. “It doesn’t matter whether we’re in a pandemic, a construction project, or any other adversity. We are the safety net for animals, and we will always find a way to assist them.”

The SPCA assisted police in removing the rabbits from a home in Farmington on April 2. While police estimated that 20 rabbits were living in the home, Dennison said there were more than 60 that needed to be captured and brought to safety.

Thirty-six of the rabbits came into the SPCA in Stratham, while Pope Memorial Cochecho Valley Humane Society accepted 24.

A veterinarian exam on the rabbits, which included some very young bunnies, revealed they were suffering from medical conditions requiring extensive medical care and quarantine for approximately 4 weeks. The thirty-six include one mother still nursing neonates.

It is not yet known if any of the females are pregnant.

Currently, the rabbits are separated in a clean and supportive space and receiving food, water and medical care.

Dennison said the animals were surrendered by their owner who had become overwhelmed by the care needed.

In a separate incident, the SPCA assisted Pittsfield police Friday, April 9 as they executed a search warrant at a residence suspected of animal cruelty. One miniature horse, four standard horses and a mule were rescued from the property.

Dennison said the case is still under investigation by Pittsfield police.

“The condition of the horses varies,” stated a press release from the SPCA. “No other information is available on their condition as we await the outcome of the equine veterinary reports. In the meantime, they too are receiving food, water and medical care.”

If you would like to help the New Hampshire SPCA care for these rabbits and horses as well as other victims of neglect or cruelty, you can make a tax-deductible donation to the SOS Fund at the NHSPCA, by check, phone or online.

The SOS Fund is specially designated to help care for animal victims of cruelty or neglect. Go to <http://bit.ly/nhspca-sos-fund> to put your support to work quickly, or call 03-773-570 to make a gift by phone. Checks can be mailed to: SOS Fund, NHSPCA, PO Box 19 , Stratham, NH 03885.

Those wishing to help provide in-kind donations for these animals, the SPCA suggests visiting their wishlist on Amazon as they are not able to accept item donations at the door due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The wish list is located at <https://nhspca.org/wish-list/>.