PET HOLIDAYS 2026

January 2026

Month Long Observances:

- Walk Your Dog Month
- Walk Your Pet Month
- National Train Your Dog Month
- Adopt a Rescued Bird Month
- One Health Awareness Month

Dates & Celebrations:

- January 2 – National Pet Travel Safety Day
- January 2 – Happy Mew Year for Cats Day
- January 5 – National Bird Day
- January 6 – National Cuddle Up Day
- January 6 – National Standard Poodle Day
- January 7 – National Alaskan Malamute Day
- January 8 – National Labrador Retriever Day
- January 9 – National Australian Shepherd Day
- January 13 – National French Bulldog Day
- January 14 – National Dress Up Your Pet Day
- January 15 – National American Eskimo Dog Day
- January 17 – National Boxer Day
- January 19 – National Conservation Dog Day
- January 20 – Penguin Awareness Day
- January 21 – Squirrel Appreciation Day
- January 22 – National Yorkshire Terrier Day
- January 22 – National Answer Your Cat's Question Day
- January 24 – Change a Pet's Life Day
- January 24 – Peanut Butter Day

- January 29 – Seeing-Eye Guide Dog Anniversary
- January 29 – Tuxedo Cat Appreciation Day
- January 31 – Westminster Kennel Club Annual Dog Show Begins

February 2026

Month Long Observances:

- Pet Dental Health Month
- Dog Training Education Month
- National Cat Health Month
- Responsible Pet Owners Month
- Spay/Neuter Awareness Month
- Adopt a Rescued Rabbit Month
- Heart Month

Awareness Weeks:

- February 7–14 | Have a Heart for Chained Dogs Week
- February 22–28 | National Justice for Animals Week
- February 22–28 | Bird Health Awareness Week
- February 22–28 | Veterinary Assistant Appreciation Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- February 1 – World Greyhound Day
- February 2 – National Brown Dog Day
- February 2 – National Hedgehog Day/Groundhog Day
- February 3 – Doggie Date Night
- February 3 – National Golden Retriever Day
- February 14 – Pet Theft Awareness Day
- February 14 – Valentine's Day (pets included!)
- February 19 – National Boston Terrier Day
- February 19 – National Whippet Day
- February 20 – Love Your Pet Day
- February 21 – International Skye Terrier Day
- February 22 – Walking the Dog Day
- February 22 – National Wildlife Day
- February 23 – National Dog Biscuit Day
- February 24 – World Spay Day

March 2026

Month Long Observances:

- Poison Prevention Awareness Month
- Adopt a Rescued Guinea Pig Month

Awareness Weeks:

- March 2–8 | Professional Pet Sitters Week
- March 15–21 | National Poison Prevention Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- March 1 – National Pig Day
- March 1 – National Welsh Corgi Day
- March 2 – International Rescue Cat Day
- March 3 – World Wildlife Day
- March 3 – If Pets Had Thumbs Day
- March 3 – Tripawd Awareness Day
- March 6 – Employee Appreciation Day
- March 8 – International Akita Day
- March 15 – World Kidney Day
- March 13 – K-9 Veterans Day
- March 14 – UK Dog Theft Awareness Day
- March 15 – National Catio Day
- March 17 – Saint Gertrude of Nivelles Day/St. Patrick's Day
- March 23 – National Puppy Day
- March 23 – Cuddly Kitten Day
- March 25 – National Newfoundland Dog Day
- March 27 – National Terrier Day
- March 28 – Respect Your Cat Day
- March 30 – Take a Walk in the Park Day

April 2026

Month Long Observances:

- Heartworm Awareness Month

- National Pet First Aid Awareness Month
- Prevent Lyme Disease in Dogs Month
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month
- Canine Fitness Month

Awareness Weeks:

- April 1–7 | International Pooper Scooper Week
- April 1–7 | National Public Health Week
- April 12–18 | National Dog Bite Prevention Week
- April 12–18 | Animal Care and Control Appreciation Week
- April 21–27 | Animal Cruelty/Human Violence Awareness Week
- April 17–23 | National Pet ID Week
- April 19–25 | Veterinary Receptionist Week
- April 23–29 | National Scoop the Poop Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- April 1 – International Bull Terrier Day
- April 1- Passover (begins at sundown)
- April 1- April Fool's Day
- April 2 – National Ferret Day
- April 4 – World Stray Animal Day
- April 4 – World Rat Day
- April 4 – Every Day is Tag Day
- April 5- Easter
- April 6 – National Siamese Cat Day
- April 7 – National Pet Health Insurance Day
- April 10 – National Hug Your Dog Day
- April 11 – National Pet Day
- April 11 – Dog Therapy Appreciation Day
- April 12 – World Hamster Day
- April 14 - Holocaust Remembrance Day
- April 16 – Biomedical Research Awareness Day
- April 18 – Pet Owners Day
- April 19 – National Cat Lady Day
- April 21 – Bulldogs Are Beautiful Day
- April 22 – Earth Day & National Beagle Day
- April 22 – Pet CPR Day
- April 23 – National Lost Dog Awareness Day
- April 24 – Hairball Awareness Day
- April 25 – World Veterinary Day
- April 26 – National Pet Parents Day

- April 26 – National Kids & Pets Day
- April 26 – Int'l Search & Rescue Dog Day
- April 27 – National Little Pampered Dog Day
- April 29 – International Guide Dog Day
- April 30 – Adopt a Shelter Pet Day
- April 30 – National Therapy Animal Day

May 2026

Month Long Observances:

- National Pet Month
- Responsible Animal Guardian Month
- Chip Your Pet Month
- Pet Cancer Awareness Month
- National Foster Care Month

Awareness Weeks:

- May 3–9 | National Pet Week
- May 3–9 | American Humane Society's Be Kind to Animals Week
- May 4–10 | Dog Anxiety Awareness Week
- May 4–10 | Puppy Mill Action Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- May 1 – National Purebred Dog Day
- May 1 – International Samoyed Day
- May 3 – Mayday for Mutts
- May 3 – National Specially-Abled Pets Day
- May 4 – Bird Day
- May 4 – Star Wars Day
- May 7- National Day of Prayer
- May 9 – National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day
- May 9 – National Dog Mom's Day
- May 9 – Migratory Bird Day
- May 10 – Mother's Day
- May 10 – German Shepherd Day
- May 14 – Int'l Chihuahua Appreciation Day
- May 15 – Endangered Species Day

- May 16 – World Dog Day
- May 20 – National Rescue Dog Day
- May 23 – World Turtle Day
- May 25 - Memorial Day

June 2026

Month Long Observances:

- National Pet Preparedness Month
- National Microchipping Month
- Adopt-a-Cat Month
- National Foster a Pet Month
- National Zoo & Aquarium Month

Awareness Weeks:

- June 7–13 | Pet Appreciation Week
- June 15–21 | Animal Rights Awareness Week
- June 22–26 | Take Your Pet to Work Week®
- June 22–28 | National Pollinator Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- June 1 – International Sheltie Day
- June 2 – National Greyhound Day
- June 4 – International Corgi Day & Hug Your Cat Day
- June 7 – World Food Safety Day
- June 8 – Best Friends Day & World Oceans Day
- June 9 – World Pet Memorial Day (2nd Tues)
- June 12 – Peruvian Hairless Dog Day
- June 14 – National Dog Dad Day
- June 16 – World Sea Turtle Day
- June 18 – National Internet Cat Day & Veterinary Appreciation Day
- June 19 – Garfield the Cat Day
- June 20 – Ugliest Dog Day
- June 21 – National Dachshund Day
- June 21- Father's Day
- June 22 – National Pet Choking Prevention Day
- June 24 – Cat World Domination Day
- June 27 – World Day Against Abandonment of Domestic Animals

July 2026

Month Long Observances:

- National Lost Pet Prevention Month
- National Pet Hydration Awareness Month

Awareness Weeks:

- July 6–12 | National Farriers Week
- July 26–August 1 | National Feed a Rescue Pet Week

📅 Dates & Celebrations:

- July 1 – ID Your Pet Day
- July 4 – International Whippet Day
- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 10 – National Kitten Day
- July 11 – All-American Pet Photo Day
- July 15 – National Pet Fire Safety Day & Feline Leukemia Day
- July 21 – World Collie Day & National Craft for Local Shelters Day
- July 26 – National Dog Photography Day
- July 30 – International Friendship Day

August 2026

Month Long Observances:

- National Dog Month
- National Immunization Awareness Month
- Clear the Shelters Month

Awareness Weeks:

- August 3–9 | International Assistance Dog Week
- August 3–9 | Give a Dog a Bone Week

📅 Dates & Celebrations:

- August 1 – DOGust Universal Birthday for Shelter Dogs & National Yorkie Day
- August 4 – Assistance Dog Day
- August 6 – Fresh Breath Day
- August 8 – International Cat Day
- August 10 – Spoil Your Dog Day
- August 14 – World Lizard Day
- August 15 – National Check the Chip Day
- August 15 – International Homeless Animals' Day
- August 22 – National Take Your Cat to the Vet Day
- August 23 – Blind Dog Day
- August 26 – National Dog Day & World Dog Day
- August 28 – Rainbow Bridge Remembrance Day
- August 30 – National Holistic Pet Day

September 2026

Month Long Observances:

- National Pet Insurance Month
- Happy Cat Month
- Pet Sitter Education Month
- National Service Dog Month
- National Pet Memorial Month

Awareness Weeks:

- September 14–20 | Adopt-a-Less-Adoptable-Pet Week
- September 20–September 26 | National Deaf Pet Awareness Week
- September 20–September 26 | National Dog Week
- September 21–27 | National Farm Health and Safety Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- September 1 – Ginger Cat Appreciation Day
- September 4 – National Wildlife Day
- September 5 – National White Cat Day
- September 7- Labor Day
- September 8 – National Dog Walker Appreciation Day
- September 8 – National Iguana Awareness Day
- September 11- Rosh Hashanah (begins at sundown)
- September 11 - Patriot Day

- September 13 – Pet Birth Defect Awareness Day
- September 13 – National Pet Memorial Day
- September 17 – National Pet Bird Day & National Pet Carbon Monoxide Safety Day
- September 19 – National Meow Like a Pirate Day
- September 19 – Puppy Mill Awareness Day
- September 21 – National Cat & Dog Gut Health Awareness Day
- September 21 - Peace Day
- September 23 – Dogs in Politics Day
- September 24 – Remember Me Thursday®
- September 26 – International Rabbit Day
- September 28 – World Rabies Day (recognized globally)

October 2026

Month Long Observances:

- Adopt-a-Dog Month
- National Animal Safety & Protection Month
- National Pet Wellness & Pet Obesity Awareness Month
- National Pitbull Awareness Month

Awareness Weeks:

- October 1–7 | National Walk Your Dog Week
- October 3–9 | Animal Welfare Week
- October 18–24 | National Veterinary Technician Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- October 1 – National Fire Pup Day & National Black Dog Day
- October 4 – World Animal Day
- October 10 – World Mental Health Day
- October 12- Indigenous People's Day
- October 12 - Columbus Day
- October 14 – National Pet Obesity Awareness Day
- October 16 – National Feral Cat Day
- October 17 – National Fetch Day
- October 21 – National Pets for Veterans Day & Reptile Awareness Day
- October 24 – National Pitbull Awareness Day
- October 31 - Halloween

November 2026

Month Long Observances:

- Adopt a Senior Pet Month
- National Senior Pet Month
- Pet Cancer Awareness Month
- Pet Diabetes Month

Awareness Weeks:

- November 1–7 | National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week
- November 8–14 | Human-Animal Relationship Awareness Week

Dates & Celebrations:

- November 1 – National Cook for Your Pets Day
- November 1 – All Saints Day
- November 2 - All Souls Day
- November 3 – One Health Day
- November 7 – National Canine Lymphoma Awareness Day
- November 8 – International Human-Animal Bond Day
- November 11 – Veterans Day
- November 12 – World Animal Enrichment Day
- November 16 – National Slobber Appreciation Day
- November 17 – National Take a Hike Day
- November 23 – Wolfenoot & Thankful for My Dog Day
- November 24 – National Border Collie Day
- November 26 - Thanksgiving

December 2026

Month Long Observances:

- National Cat Lovers' Month
- Safe Toys & Gifts Month

Awareness Weeks:

- December 4–12 | Hanukkah
- December 26–January 1 | Kwanzaa

Dates & Celebrations

- December 1 – Giving Tuesday
- December 2 – National Mutt Day
- December 3 – Celebrate Shelter Pets Day
- December 4 – World Wildlife Conservation Day
- December 9 – International Day of Veterinary Medicine
- December 10 – International Animal Rights Day
- December 25- Christmas Day
- December 27 – Visit the Zoo Day
- December 31 – New Year's Eve

The Association of Pet Professionals compiled this Pet Holiday Calendar for 2026 to assist pet professionals with business brand-building efforts.

We utilized many sources to develop this comprehensive calendar, especially the Schwarzman Animal Medical Center: https://www.amcny.org/2026-pet-holidays-and-veterinary-awareness-days/

We focused on pet-centric holidays, and sprinkled in those that are recognized for their significance; without any intentional exclusion of holidays that matter to you individually.

Actual dates of events may vary. *Clip art shown available on https://creazilla.com/ . Use of the images is free for editorial, educational, commercial and/or personal projects. No attribution required.*

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