

# Proclamation

## PUPPY MILL AWARENESS DAY

**WHEREAS**, the Humane Society of the United States, has determined that puppy mills are inhumane commercial breeding facilities which disregard the animals' health – both physical and emotional – in order to maximize profits; and

**WHEREAS**, the worldwide use of dogs as companion animals, as vital partners in law-enforcement and military duty, for therapeutic situations, as service animals for the disabled and blind or visually impaired, and in other noble roles is a testimony to the intelligence, devotion, and value of these animals and to the respectful treatment they deserve; and

**WHEREAS**, commonly known as puppy mills, there are more than 10,000 such breeding operations, fewer than 3,000 of which are regulated by the U.S Department of Agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, dogs from puppy mills are often underdeveloped, sick, or suffer from genetic deformities or behavioral defects as a result of poor socialization and mistreatment, and some may even die only days or weeks after purchase; and

**WHEREAS**, many pets purchased as holiday gifts come from puppy mills, and animal welfare organizations see increased numbers of rejected and unwanted dogs following the holidays; and

**WHEREAS**, tolerating the inhumane treatment of adult breeding dogs, where profit is put above the welfare of the dogs, and the sale of unhealthy puppies to consumers constitutes an abdication of the responsibilities of good citizenship and good stewardship; and

**WHEREAS**, greater transparency within and oversight of this industry will yield a better outcome for dogs, responsible dog breeders, and adopters of animals; and

**WHEREAS**, Berthoud residents are encouraged to observe Puppy Mill Awareness Month by supporting efforts to raise awareness of puppy mills, support rescue organizations, and promote responsible dog breeding and responsible pet adoption; now, therefore, be it

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me as Mayor of the Town of Berthoud, I do hereby proclaim September 26, 2021 Puppy Mill Awareness Day in the Town of Berthoud and encourage every citizen seek responsible avenues of pet adoption

Given under my hand in these free United States in the Town of Berthoud, on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021, and to which I have caused the Seal of the Town of Berthoud to be affixed and have made this proclamation public.

William Karspeck, Mayor

