

NEW RG CARES ANIMAL SHELTER – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where will the new shelter be located?

- The new animal shelter will be located at 427 Beach Road in Haverstraw, New York.
- Rockland Green is building a new animal shelter to replace the existing County-owned shelter at 65 Firemen’s Memorial Drive in Pomona, which was built in the 1970s. The existing shelter facility will not comply with New York State Laws that will go into effect at the end of 2025.

Who designed the new shelter?

- Rockland Green selected BDA Architecture to design the new shelter. BDA Architecture is a firm nationally known for designing animal shelters, veterinary hospitals, service dog facilities and universities of veterinary medicine. As part of the design process, Rockland Green consulted with other experts in the field, including the New York Animal Protection Federation Fund. Consultants from the Federation provided feedback and input on the facility design to help ensure that the new facility meets the needs of the community.

How many animals will the new shelter accommodate, and why is it so much larger than the current shelter in Pomona?

- The new shelter will be a “no-kill” shelter sized to accommodate up to 120 dogs, 226 cats, and 213 other types of “exotic” animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs, birds and reptiles. These numbers are based on current numbers with some added capacity to accommodate future growth in a growing county.
- Its design complies with the requirements of the New York State Agriculture & Markets Law that will go into effect in December of 2025 to ensure a properly sized facility—one that is safe, hygienic and hospitable for the animals, as well as the workers caring for them.

Is the new shelter located in a flood zone?

- Many areas in Rockland are located in a flood plain. The new shelter is located in a 100 year floodplain, which means it has a 1% chance of experiencing a flood in a single year. During the approval process for the construction of the building, the Town’s flood plan administrator determined that the proposed construction was in compliance with all applicable floodplain regulations.

Is the new shelter in an environmentally safe area?

- Yes, it is.

The new shelter is located in an area near several parks including Haverstraw Bay Park, Peck's Pond Park, Bowline Point Park and the Haverstraw Marina. It is also located next to the closed Haverstraw Landfill which was closed in accordance with New York State Law requirements and has been properly monitored and maintained since its closing. It is also located near the Joint Regional Sewerage Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- The Haverstraw Landfill has been capped and closed in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and does not pose a risk to the area. In fact, it has been turned into a parklike setting that can be used for safely exercising the dogs at the shelter.
- The Joint Regional Sewerage District Wastewater Treatment Plant, operates under a permit with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and utilizes measures to mitigate odors.