



New at Safe Haven

Happy Summer!

There are many wonderful new faces and farm additions at our sanctuary.

Barn Extension

This past winter, six young roosters who had been living together harmoniously for 2-3 months started getting into fights. We had to separate them just to keep them from seriously injuring each other. We built two new chicken houses with enclosed aviaries and we have nearly finished work on an addition to our front barn where some of the roosters can live separately with their own female friends. In the picture to the right, Daisy is in front of the barn extension; below, two of our inquisitive hens are inspecting the construction of the new extension.



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Duck Island

On the dirt road up to our sanctuary, you will pass by a peaceful duck pond. Most of the ducks are escapees from the Pawling Mountain Club, a private hunting club that purchases boxes of game birds including farm raised mallard ducks. Some of the birds escape and find their way over the hill to our pond. Every spring, the female ducks disappear to lay their eggs. To provide a safe place for the ducks to lay their eggs we placed an island in the middle of our pond and planted it with duck resistant plants that we hope will grow to form a bushy hiding place for the female ducks to make their nests next spring.

New Goat Family

Meet Bessie and Milo, a mother and son pair who were rescued from Coney Island (see picture to the right). Both goats are extremely friendly and will run up to any human who may happen to visit their pasture.

Milo is especially inquisitive. When he first arrived, Milo would often stand on a wooden chair to check out the nearby chicken area.

Bessie is the type of goat that would have been used to produce goat's milk for humans. If Bessie had lived the normal life of a dairy goat, Milo would have been taken away from her soon after birth.

Goats, like all other mammals, can only produce milk when they give birth. Tragically, farmers do not keep mother and child together because they want to sell the mother goat's milk to humans. Male kids, like Milo, will most likely be killed and sold as goat meat. Male goats are seen as a nuisance to dairy farms since they will not produce milk and it would be expensive to let them live past a few days old.

We hope that Bessie and Milo will inspire you to consider buying plant-based dairy products.

Future Events at Safe Haven 30 New Hens

We will be adopting 30 new hens from the Watkins Glen Farm Sanctuary in mid summer. They are survivors of an egg laying factory whose owner decided to surrender them to a sanctuary rather than send them to slaughter house as is usually the case for hens who have stopped laying lots of eggs. They will be living in the expanded chicken house and the new barn extension with the roosters and will spend their days foraging and frolicking in the grass.

Fall Open House

Come visit us on Saturday, October 18 Meet the animals, explore the sanctuary, and enjoy complementary vegan snacks. It all starts at noon. All friends and family members welcome.

Thanksgiving Celebration

Give thanks and pumpkin pie to our turkeys at our annual Thanksgiving event on November 22 at noon.



New Meaning of “Birdbrain”

The Mercy for Animals website recently noted details from *Scientific American* which highlights a study on chicken intelligence and shows that chickens might be a whole lot smarter than previously thought.

The article explains that “scientists have learned that this bird can be deceptive and cunning, that it possesses communication skills on par with some primates, and that it uses sophisticated signals to convey its intentions ... when making decisions, the chicken takes into account its own prior experience and knowledge surrounding the situation ... and can solve complex problems and empathizes with individuals that are in danger.”

According to Christine Nicol, a professor of animal welfare at Bristol University, chickens are capable of mathematical reasoning and logic, including numeracy, self-control, and even basic structural engineering. These traits are not seen in children under the age of four.

Despite the clear evidence of farmed animal intelligence and sentience, billions of animals are routinely abused and slaughtered each year for human consumption.

Explore a vegetarian diet and help create a kinder world for all animals.

Duck Rescue: Mike the Mallard

Walking down the dirt road by our pond, we came across a duck hiding under a bush by the side of the road. He tried to flap his wings to get away because he couldn't walk. We gently picked him up and wrapped him in a towel to keep him warm. The vet found both his femurs were broken, likely from being hit by a car but he reassured us that with supportive care he should recover in about



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Roo the Rooster

Roo the Rooster was rescued by a caring resident of Pawling, New York, who noticed the rooster trying to find shelter under some bushes on his property this past January as a bitter snowstorm was approaching and the temperature was close to zero. He managed to capture Roo and brought him to Safe Haven, where he was given the necessary medical treatment to recover. He is now healthy and living happily in the coop with our “Jersey girls.” He looks after the hens very well, runs over to and calls them to come home to the roost every evening. He is a handsome Cochin rooster with feathers on his feet. Lucky fella!



The River Vale Five

Chipmunk (pictured) is one of the five lovely hens that we recently adopted from River Vale, New Jersey. All of them are extremely gentle and enjoy relaxing together in the shade.

When Chipmunk first came to the sanctuary, she was very slow and kept to herself. Now, she has unbelievably adventurous and can be seen exploring the farm and visiting the other animals at the sanctuary.



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two weeks. Mike moved into the bathroom of the cottage at our farm where he rested on towels at night and spent his days paddling around the bathtub. When he started jumping into the bathtub, we realized he was ready to go back to the pond. We took him down to the water's edge in a carrier and opened the door. Mike waddled out and called to the other ducks who swam over eagerly and welcomed him back to the flock.

Help Us Help Animals!

Donate

Donate and help us provide the best possible care for our farm family. Our farm sanctuary is home to over 70 animals. We appreciate your support.

Volunteer

We are always looking for volunteers to help with cleaning, socializing the animals, gardening, outreach, and various other projects going on around the farm. If you are interested in helping out, please call or e-mail (contact info to the right).



Contact Us



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