

## Income Tax Option Gives Dogs a Break

**Georgia residents can donate to spay, neuter program by checking a box on tax returns.**

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Georgia residents now have the opportunity to provide spay-neuter assistance to dogs throughout the state simply by checking a box their state tax forms.

The Dog and Cat Sterilization Fund State Income Tax Checkoff is now available on 2006 state income tax forms. The check box is located on line 32 of form 500 and line 15 of form 500EZ.

Georgians can donate as much as they would like from their tax refunds or in their payments to support the program. Created in 2004 by state House Bill 452, the Dog and Cat Sterilization Fund Income Tax Checkoff provides funding for the Department of Agriculture's statewide spay-neuter program.

Georgia also sells original dog license plates at county tag offices for a one-time \$25 fee. Of that fee, \$22 directly to fund spay-neuter subsidies and educational outreach.

"Because the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program receives no state funding, we depend solely on donations to achieve our critical spay-neuter mission," Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Tommy Irvin said.

"This additional source of funding will supplement license plate sales and help curb pet overpopulation in our state," Irvin said.

For information on the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program, visit the Georgia Department of Agriculture website:  
[http://agr.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,38902732\\_39653527\\_41252325,00.html](http://agr.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,38902732_39653527_41252325,00.html)