

## Wag & Wheels FAQ

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### **What type of vehicle can I donate to the Animal Humane Society?**

We accept cars, trucks, boats, fleet vehicles, motor homes, motorcycles, snowmobiles, personal water crafts, RVs, farm and construction equipment, planes and more.

### **My vehicle no longer runs, can you still accept it?**

Probably! Most vehicle donations are accepted, running or not. Through our partner organizations, non-working 'clunkers' can often times be resold to recyclers for parts. However there are some older or damaged vehicles whose value won't offset the cost of towing and we are unable to accept them. To find out if we can accept your vehicle, please [contact us](#) (jcass@animalhumanesociety.org)

### **What do I need to donate my vehicle?**

Just the keys and the title, we will provide some simple paperwork for you to fill out.

### **I can't find my title; can you still accept my vehicle?**

Yes! Our partner organizations have relationships with the Department of Motor Vehicles and can assist you in getting a new copy of your title. For help in getting your title, please [contact us](#). (jcass@animalhumanesociety.org)

### **Do I have to pay for towing or any other fees?**

Nope! Towing is offered free of charge and there are no 'hidden fees' you need to worry about.

### **I don't live in the Twin Cities, can you still accept my vehicle?**

Yes, we recently expanded our program and are now able to accept vehicles in all 50 states!

### **What happens to my car after it's donated?**

Once you contact us to donate your vehicle, one of our partner organizations will come to tow your vehicle. From there your car will be assessed to see how we can get the most money from your donation to go back to the animals. When it is cost-effective we may make some mechanical repairs prior to reselling it. From there, some cars will be sold on a retail lot, some through auction and others will be recycled for parts.

### **Is my donation tax deductible?**

Yes! The Animal Humane Society is a 501 (c)(3) organization and your donation to us is entirely deductible.

### **How much will my tax write off be?**

The IRS allows you to either claim:

- 1) A standard deduction of the fair market value of your vehicle, up to \$500. If you choose this option, once we receive notification that you have donated your vehicle, we will send you an acknowledgement form for your taxes.
- 2) The amount we sell your vehicle for if it is more than \$500. If you chose this option we will send you a receipt listing the gross proceeds from the sale no more than 30 days after it's been resold.

In some instances our partner organization may decide to make repairs to your vehicle prior to reselling it. In this situation, the IRS will allow you to claim the fair market value of the vehicle up to \$5,000. It is your responsibility to make a good faith determination of the value of the vehicle at the time of donation prior to repairs, taking into account its age and condition.

More information on IRS requirements can be found on [their website](http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=136939,00.html).  
(<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=136939,00.html>)

If you have additional questions on your deduction, we encourage you to speak to your tax advisor.

### **I've heard stories about scam artists, how do I know this is legit?**

There are many great and trustworthy charities out there that have vehicle donation programs. Sadly, there are also a lot of organizations that have taken advantage of people's generosity. Here are some pointers to help you ensure your vehicle is going to the right place:

- **Ensure that the charity is an organization that you know, trust and has been reviewed by independent sources.** When choosing a charity, be careful of 'sound-alike' charities or charities that use names similar to other, well known organizations.
- **Ask how the car will be handled.** Steer clear of programs where your vehicle is driven from your home. To avoid any liability for your vehicle it is best to have it towed directly from your property. You'll also want to

know that the towers are licensed and insured and that the vehicle to going to be sold through licensed dealers.

- **Sign the title directly to the charity or their agent.** Don't leave the title blank under any circumstances. Many illegitimate charities ask that the title be left blank. This practice may leave you liable for many months after your vehicle has been donated. The title should be signed directly to the charity or its authorized agent.

Through our partner organizations, Cars with Heart and auto-donation.com, the Animal Humane Society meets all of the above standards. The Animal Humane Society is the leading animal welfare organization in the upper Midwest. We have received a 4-star rating from [Charity Navigator](http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=5328) (<http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=5328>) and received a "Meets All Standards" seal from the [Charities Review Council](http://www.smartgivers.org/SmartGiversReview/410693842) (<http://www.smartgivers.org/SmartGiversReview/410693842>). Your donation helps us support the over 36,000 animals that come to us every year.

### **I'm ready to donate, how do I get started?**

It's simple! Just contact one of our partner organizations to get started.

If you are located within the Twin Cities:

[Cars with Heart](http://www.carswithheart.com) - [www.carswithheart.com](http://www.carswithheart.com)

651-690-3255

If you are located outside the Twin Cities:

[auto-donation.com](http://auto-donation.com)

800-456-5517

### **I have more questions, where can I get more information?**

All you need to do is contact Jonathan Cass at 763-489-2211 or by email at

[jcass@animalhumanesociety.org](mailto:jcass@animalhumanesociety.org)

Thank you for your interest in Wag & Wheels!