

TACA AWARD WINNERS November**Warren J. Kilpatrick Award**

Fred H. Sanderson
Irving Animal Services Manager

Coy D. Willis Award

Ethel Strother, Farmers Branch Animal Services

Media Award

Rick Tomlin and Callie Harris
Media Relations
City of Abilene

Humane Educator

Submitted By Awards Chairman, Fred Sanderson

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Humane Educator Award

Chrishandra Huff
Arlington Community Services Educator

James Vyers Field Officer Award

Samantha Freeman
Abilene Animal Services Officer

Volunteer of the Year Award

Russell Posch
Irving Animal Care Campus

Virginia Euseste Training Grant Program

Miguel Guana, Farmers Branch Animal Control
Officer

W. R. Bilderback, D.V.M. Award

Wendy Blount, DVM, Nacogdoches

Hank Brock Equipment Grant

Ruben Purcell
City of Winnsboro Animal Shelter

Texas Animal Control & Welfare Agencies award:

100, 000 plus population- City of Plano Animal
Services

50,000-100,000 population-City of Mansfield Animal
Care and Control

25,000 or less population- City of Robstown Animal
Control

Adopt, Don't Shop - The Problem with Pet Stores

Adopt, Don't Shop!

Most of the puppies sold in pet stores come from puppy mills. Purchasing pet store animals means not only supporting the cruel puppy mill industry but also taking a home away from one of the 4 to 5 million unwanted shelter animals killed each year. Because of the inbreeding and fitness problems common to puppy mills, they often produce animals with serious health problems which typically result in hefty vet fees. On top of this, pet stores generally do not socialize their animals. The puppies may consequently develop behavioral problems which do not make them ideal as pets. Pet shops dispose of unsold animals in, at times, unscrupulous ways.

What can be done to prevent this:

- Stop pet stores from selling puppies supplied by puppy mills.
- Educating the public to "ADOPT, DON'T SHOP!" when choosing a companion animal
- Work with local pet store owners by educating them about the horrific conditions and inherent cruelty of puppy mills
- Support local pet stores that agree to stop selling puppies from puppy mills and to deal only in rescue and shelter dogs.