



News Media Contact
 Captain Carol Reardon
 919.560.4242 x19242
 Carol.Reardon@durhamnc.gov

News Release

For Immediate Release: May 14, 2019

Durham Fire Department Receives Donation of Pet Oxygen Masks *News Media Invited to Mask Demonstration*

DURHAM, N.C. – Thanks to a donation of pet masks from a local animal hospital, the Durham Fire Department will be able to help even more fur babies impacted by fire.

On Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at Fire Station 9, 1648 Midland Terrace, the department will accept a donation of pet oxygen masks and Ambu bags from Eno Animal Hospital. Pet oxygen masks are specially shaped to fit over pets' snouts and can save lives after smoke inhalation. Ambu bags are manual resuscitators or "self-inflating bags", which are hand-held devices used to provide positive pressure ventilation to pets who are not breathing or not breathing adequately.

Durham firefighters have saved the lives of several pets using pet oxygen masks over the past few years. During the event, Captain Tina Hamlin and her dog, Jethro, will give a demonstration of how firefighters use these life-saving masks to resuscitate pets rescued from burning buildings.

Captain Hamlin was part of the crew that rescued a cat from a house fire on Golden Crest Drive in March 2018. The attached video shows Firefighter Brian Scott using a pet mask to resuscitate the cat rescued at this fire.

The donation of the pet masks and Ambu bags was made possible through the generosity of the staff and clients of Eno Animal Hospital.

For on-site news media assistance at the May 16 event, contact Captain Carol Reardon at (919) 560-4242, ext. 19242 or Carol.Reardon@DurhamNC.gov.

About the City of Durham Fire Department

The [Durham Fire Department](#) strives to enhance the quality of life for the residents and visitors of Durham by minimizing the harmful effects of fires, medical emergencies, and other types of dangerous events. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps create a safer community by conducting fire and life safety education programs; providing emergency responses to fires, medical calls, hazardous materials spills, technical rescue calls, and water rescue calls; explaining and enforcing the fire code; investigating arson and the cause of other fires; and maintaining readiness through constant training and maintenance of facilities and equipment. To learn more follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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2008 East Club Blvd. Durham, NC 27704

919.560.4242

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