

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NAPPS Cautions Consumers on Seasonally-Inspired Pet Purchases

Research and evaluate before adding rabbits, chicks to your family

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J.--With flower buds emerging from previously-slumbering gardens, and temperatures rising around the country, “spring fever” is easy to catch. Despite the warmer weather, and impending spring holidays – including Easter, Passover and Mother’s Day – the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS), a nonprofit organization comprised of in-home pet care professionals, encourages potential pet parents to think twice before bringing new, “themed” baby animals home.

“While it may be challenging to resist cute chicks and young rabbits, you must think beyond the initial joy of welcoming these harbingers of spring into your home, and truly evaluate if the chosen animals will make the best pets for your family and current lifestyle,” stated John D’Ariano, President of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters. “These ‘impulse purchase’ pets have an increased risk of neglect or abandonment compared with animals added to families following careful research and consideration of what best suits everyone involved.”

NAPPS provides resources for pet parents on its website, which, along with candid conversations among the potential pet parents and family members, can help determine if you are prepared to welcome a new, furry or feathery family member. Take the time to consider your responses to the following questions, and use these sentiments to help guide your decision:

- Do you have the time, space and interest to care for the pet properly?
- Does the pet complement your lifestyle?
- What is the pet’s temperament?
- Does anyone who would live with the pet have allergies it may aggravate?
- What is the pet’s life expectancy?
- In the event of disease or illness, can you afford to provide care for the pet?

The above points are just some of the factors you should consider before bringing home a new pet – no matter how small or adorable it is. Remember: Animals are living creatures, and domesticated ones require love, attention and care. Making an informed decision will ensure, if you *do* choose to add a new member to your family, the pet fits well into its new role for many years to come.

About NAPPS

NAPPS is a national non-profit trade association dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals. The Association aims to help the pet owning public, those interested in pet sitting, and professionals engaged in the in-home pet care industry by fulfilling its vision statement, serving as “the most respected authority in professional pet sitting.” It does so by providing the tools and support to foster the success of its members. Additionally, pet parents can benefit from NAPPS’ free resources including a disaster preparedness guide, tips on how to select a pet sitter,

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nationwide referral service, and quarterly teleconferences aimed to educate the pet owning public. To find a pet sitter in your area, check out NAPPS' nationwide "Pet Sitter Locator" at www.petsitters.org. For more information on NAPPS, please follow [@TheNAPPS](https://twitter.com/TheNAPPS) on Twitter or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/TheNAPPS.

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