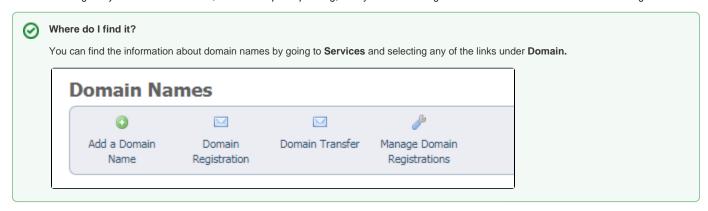
# **About domain names**

Domain names make your web address easy to remember. For RescueGroups.org Website Service, you are not required to register a domain name as your organization can choose a free *hostname*, which acts as a domain name. We do strongly recommend it though, and suggest you read our article about the many reasons why your rescue needs a domain name!

You will get a website URL like this: adoptablepets.rescuegroups.org. The hostname is the first part of your website address (adoptablepets), and the second part is our name (rescuegroups.org) because we host your site.

You can also register your own domain name, such as adoptablepets.org, at any time and configure it to use with either our Website or Hosting services.



#### On this page:

- Why register a domain name?
  - O Do I have to register a domain name?
  - o My organization already has a domain name registered, can we use it?
  - My organization would like to register a domain name
- Domain renewal and your Website Service

# Why register a domain name?

A domain name makes it easy for guests to find your website. For instance, the name *adoptablepets.org* is shorter and easier to remember than *adoptablepets.rescuegroups.org*. If you want a domain name like *adoptablepets.org*, see the chapter Registering a domain name.

## Do I have to register a domain name?

You never have to register a domain name. Some groups don't sign up for a domain name because of the expense. And that's okay. You can use your hostname from RescueGroups.org as your domain name.

## My organization already has a domain name registered, can we use it?

Yes. To do that, you can add the domain to your RescueGroups.org account, and "point" your existing domain name to our default name servers. This will allow your visitors to use your existing domain name to access your RescueGroups.org **Website**.

See the instructions for Adding an existing domain to your account.

#### My organization would like to register a domain name

There are two ways of registering a domain name to use with your Website Service :

- You can register a domain name through our service and we will point it for you. See the section Registering a Domain Name.
- You can register a domain name elsewhere and point it to your website. See the instructions for Adding an existing domain to your account.

# Domain renewal and your Website Service

If you have registered your domain name through RescueGroups.org and you have the Website Service, you will receive a domain renewal invoice in addition to your Website Service invoice when it is time to renew your domain name. Domain names are renewed annually, and that renewal allows your organization to keep the custom domain name you registered. Remember, your *hostname* is part of your **Website Service**, but the domain name is not.

## **Popular Questions**

Topics:

- animals
- domain
- animal
- **1.** 0

votes

## Linking support for an animal to payment

- 0 answers
- Andrea Homan
- Apr 24, 2024
- animals
- **2.** 0

votes

### How do I get my listings to automatically feed to Facebook?

- 2 answers
- Jennifer Myers
- Mar 20, 2024
- animals
- website
- exports
- facebook
- iframe

**3.** 0

### How can we embed our available or adopted animal data stored in RescueGroups.org for display on an external website service?

- 4 answers
- Whiskers & Tails Rescue Foundation
- Sept 21, 2023
- Space: Website Service Guide
- website
- exports
- animals
- toolkit

**4.** 0

#### My Animal List is empty

- 2 answers
- Tammy Mullins
- Feb 06, 2024
- animals

**5.** 0 votes

#### Requests

- 0 answers
- Anita Lowman
- Feb 19, 2024
- requests
- animals

**6.** 0 votes

### Add a mixed breed choice for dogs

- 1 answer
- Richard [RG]
- Feb 27, 2014
- requests
- animals
- breeds exports
- **7.** 0

#### Change default location to "no"

- 1 answerAlana Woodbury
- Jan 22, 2024
- animals
- exports **8.** 0

votes

## What fields is the Asilomar Advanced Animal Statistics report pulling from

- 0 answers
- Alana Woodbury

- Jan 20, 2024animals
- 9. 0 votes status

## Is there a way to view relationship from the Animal List page?

- 1 answerMichelle CaylorDec 08, 2023
- animals
- 10. 0 votes

## Can we increase the information exported to Adopt-A-Pet to include relationships?

- Michelle CaylorDec 08, 2023animals

- exports

Have a question about this topic?