



## PRESS RELEASE

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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### **42 GUINEA PIGS LEFT TO DIE IN EXETER WOODS NOW SAFE AT LOCAL SHELTERS**

[Riverside, Rhode Island, July 14, 2023] — Two hikers discovered a total of 42 guinea pigs abandoned at the Browning Mill Pond Area off of Arcadia Road in Exeter on Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

The hikers, along with two volunteers from the RI Wildlife Clinic and a Richmond Police officer were able to contain the guinea pigs in totes where they were then transported to the Exeter Animal Shelter. Many of the guinea pigs still remain at the Exeter Shelter and at least one needed to be euthanized due to severe wounds and being severely malnourished.

The Rhode Island SPCA, the Potter League for Animals and North Kingstown Animal Control have assisted with taking in a number of the guinea pigs, where they are receiving necessary care. Unfortunately, many are in similar condition reflecting severe neglect.

**A \$500 reward leading to the conviction of those responsible is now being offered by the Rhode Island SPCA.**

Anyone with information is asked to call the Rhode Island SPCA's Humane Law Enforcement Department at 401.383.9081 or e-mail [cruelty@rispca.com](mailto:cruelty@rispca.com). To make a donation to their care, please visit [www.rispca.com](http://www.rispca.com)

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**About the Rhode Island SPCA:** Founded in 1870, the Rhode Island SPCA is not only the oldest humane organization in the state of Rhode Island but the third oldest in the United States. As a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, we do not receive any local, state or federal funding nor are we affiliated with any national humane organization. We rely solely on donations from individuals, businesses and foundations.

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