

SHELTER  
ANIMALS  
COUNT

THE NATIONAL DATABASE



SHELTERLUV

# Shelterluv API Instructions for Intake/Outcome Database

Updated 4/1/2024

# A few things to note

**Unique Approach:** The API relies on your understanding of your organization's operations.

**Custom Mapping:** Customizable within your organization's portal to match each unique intake and outcome subtype to the correct SAC category. If your organization utilized the CSV file upload method for data entry, you may observe slight variations in counts compared to those transmitted by the API. In the CSV file upload, Shelterluv employed a standardized protocol (linked [here](#)) to map all organizational data to the SAC database. However, the new API offers the flexibility of custom mapping for your data.

**Initial Opt-In:** After the initial opt-in process, the API requires a day to pull all the data before the entire process can be completed.

**Monthly Totals:** On the 5th of each month, the portal tallies all previous month's intakes and outcomes into their assigned categories.

**Daily Checks:** The API conducts daily checks for new or modified information and updates accordingly. **Please note that if modifications are made to historical data after your data is aggregated for the month, the API will not automatically adjust counts.**

**Species Focused:** Currently, the Shelterluv API counts data only for dogs and cats, with other species to come in the near future.

# What data is collected and how is the data used?

Below is a list of fields collected from participants in this API. The API serves a dual purpose. First, it automates your monthly data entry process by aggregating all your intakes and outcomes for the month. Second, the aggregated data is used to enhance best practices and understand national trends.

Rest assured that this data will not be shared at any identifiable level. If you have any concerns about data usage, please refer to our Data Usage Agreement (linked [here](#)). SAC is committed to strictly adhering to this data use policy.

- age
- altered
- animal\_id
- attributes
- breed
- color
- date of birth
- description
- In foster
- intake type
- intake subtype
- name
- outcome type
- outcome subtype
- pattern
- sex
- size
- species
- status
- weight



To send your monthly intake and outcome data to Shelter Animals Count automatically each month, there are three parts of the opt in process to complete

1. Generate an API key in your **Shelterluv** Account
2. Opt-In on your **Shelter Animals Count Portal**
3. Map all of your organization's unique subtypes

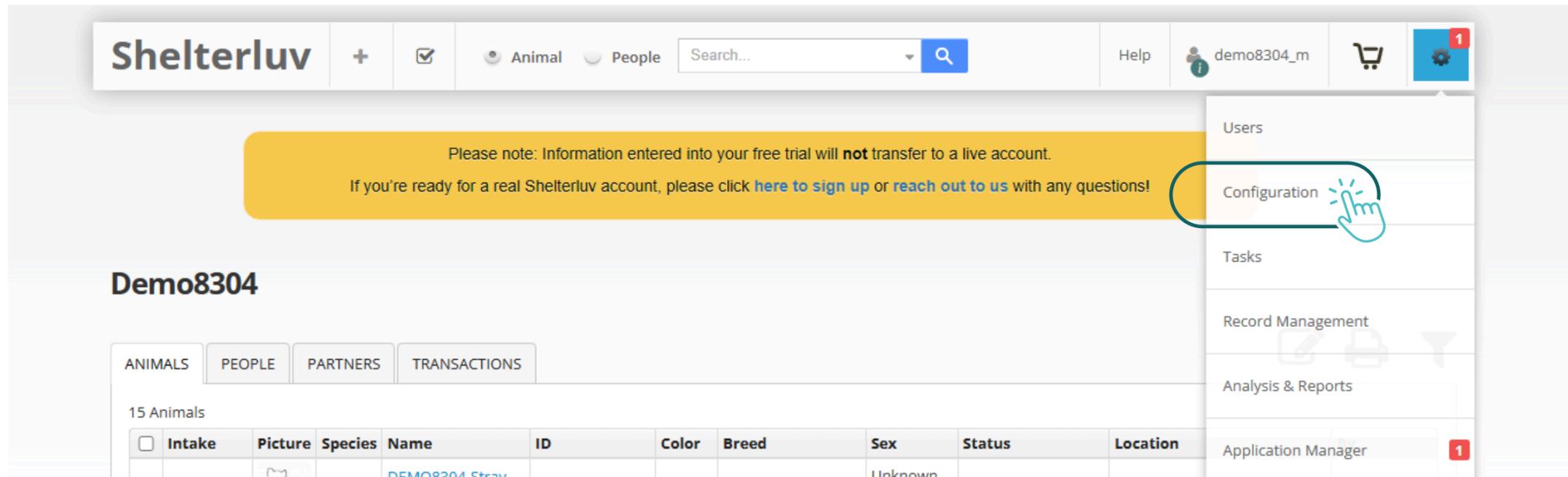
*\*If all parts are not completed the API will not work properly!*

To get started use the instructions outlined pages 4 through 14!



## Step 1: Login to Shelterluv account

## Step 2: Select Configuration from the drop down menu



The screenshot shows the Shelterluv dashboard for a demo account. The top navigation bar includes the Shelterluv logo, a search bar, and a user profile dropdown menu. The user profile dropdown menu is open, and the 'Configuration' option is highlighted with a red circle and a hand cursor. Other options in the menu include Users, Tasks, Record Management, Analysis & Reports, and Application Manager. A yellow notification banner is visible above the main content area.

Please note: Information entered into your free trial will **not** transfer to a live account.  
If you're ready for a real Shelterluv account, please click [here to sign up](#) or [reach out to us](#) with any questions!

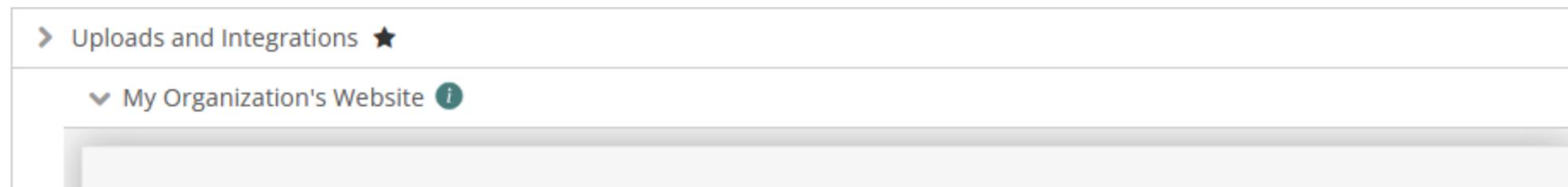
### Demo8304

ANIMALS PEOPLE PARTNERS TRANSACTIONS

15 Animals

<input type="checkbox"/>	Intake	Picture	Species	Name	ID	Color	Breed	Sex	Status	Location
<input type="checkbox"/>				DEMO8304-Strav-				Unknown		

## Step 3: Select Uploads and Integrations and then My Organization's Website

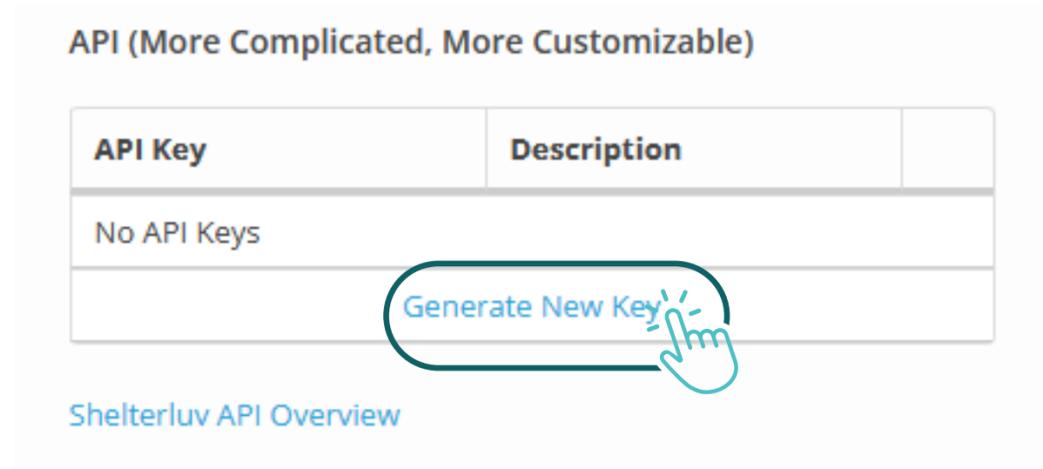


The screenshot shows the 'Uploads and Integrations' section of the Shelterluv dashboard. The 'My Organization's Website' option is selected and expanded, showing a sub-section for website configuration.

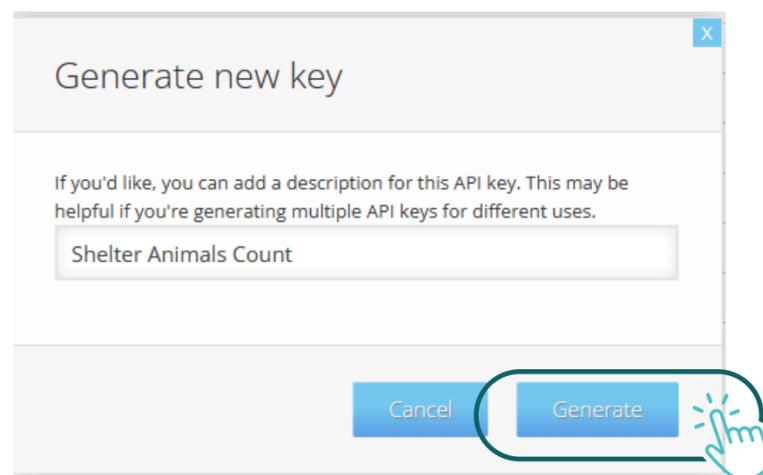
> Uploads and Integrations ★

▼ My Organization's Website ⓘ

**Step 4:** Scroll down to the **API** section and click **Generate New Key**



**Step 5:** A pop up will appear and request that you give the API a description. Input **Shelter Animals Count** and then click **Generate**.



## Step 6: Copy your new API Key, you will need this number in Step 10

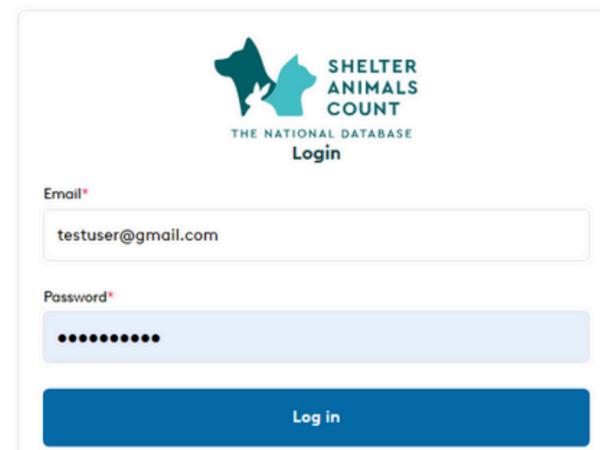
\* Your API key will be different than the value in the example

### API (More Complicated, More Customizable)

API Key	Description	
9148308f-900d-4c72-8329-49c3e814331e	Shelter Animals Count	Revoke
<a href="#">Generate New Key</a>		

## Step 7: Log in to Shelter Animals Count Data Portal

<https://data.shelteranimalscount.org/>



## Step 8: On profile drop-down, click Organization



## Step 9: Click Edit Organization



## Step 10: Near the bottom of the screen, complete the three fields for the API and click Update

\* If this section is not complete, data will not be received for your organization!

Annual Intake of animals for 2023\* ?

100

Auto Calculate

Do you use any of the following software?\*

Shelterluv

Our organization has opted-in to an API with the software company above to send Intake/Outcome data to SAC automatically each month

Yes

Software Unique Identifier (for API use only)\*

6c25642a-8b3c-4f64-aa7a-be958f96bdac

Identify "Shelterluv" as software company

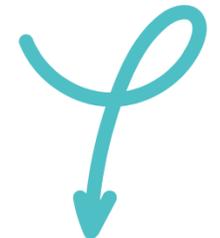
Opt-in to the API with the software company by changing to "Yes"

Paste your Shelterluv API Key copied in Step 5

Step 11: Once you've completed Step 10, please allow the API approximately 24 hours to collect your organization's data. SAC will email you when your portal is ready to continue the setup process.



Once you have received the email that your portal is ready proceed to Step 12!



## Step 12: When you log back into your portal you'll discover a list of unique subtypes your organization has used in the past.

Details Locations Members Coalitions Export Data Comparison Tableau Analytics & Forecast Data Entry Log Sharing Permissions API Mapping

Intakes	Subtypes	SAC Category
Intake.Stray	Within Coalition --	Stray at Large
Intake.Stray	Animal Control Pickup	--
Intake.Transfer	Outside Coalition	--
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Financial Issues / Can't afford	--
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Landlord / Housing Issues	--
Intake.Stray	Outside Coalition	--
Intake.FeralWildlife	Cat (feral)	--
Outcomes	Subtypes	SAC Category

Please keep in mind that your Intake and Outcome subtypes list may not be appear in alphabetical order.



In the example above, you can see two stray subtypes to map at the beginning of the list, **but there is also a stray subtype to map near the bottom.**

**Step 13:** Click **Edit** and for each item in the list. Select the SAC intake or outcome category the item should be counted in. For guidance on choosing the right SAC Category, find instructions on page 12.

Details Locations Members Coalitions Export Data Comparison Tableau Analytics & Forecast Data Entry Log Sharing Permissions **API Mapping** Cancel

Intakes	Subtypes	SAC Category
Intake.Transfer	Within Coalition	Transferred Undesignated
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Allergies	Relinquished by Owner
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Children afraid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Choose --</li> <li>Stray at Large</li> <li><b>Relinquished by Owner</b></li> <li>Owner Intended Euthanasia</li> <li>Transferred In State</li> <li>Transferred Out of State</li> <li>Transferred Internationally</li> <li>Transferred Undesignated</li> <li>Seized or Impounded</li> <li>Other Intakes</li> <li>Do not include</li> </ul>
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Landlord / Housing Issues	
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Abandoned	
Intake.OwnerSurrender	Too many animals to care for	Relinquished by Owner
Intake.OwnerSurrender	landlord won't let keep	Relinquished by Owner

# Choosing the Right SAC Category

\* For Intake.FosterReturn, Intake.Service, Outcome.Foster or Outcome.Service categories, always assign them to **Do Not Include**.

- Foster In or Out events are not considered intakes or outcomes because the animal legally remains the custody of the organization, even if they have left the building.
- Service In or Out events are not considered intakes or outcomes because they are typically associated with providing a service and there is no legal transfer of ownership.

\* For ALL other Intake/Outcome and subtype options refer to this guide that can be found by clicking the link below

[https://www.shelteranimalscount.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/SAC\\_IntakeandOutcomeDatabase\\_IOD\\_070522.pdf](https://www.shelteranimalscount.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/SAC_IntakeandOutcomeDatabase_IOD_070522.pdf)

\* For Intake.Transfer or Outcome.Transfer subtypes, you have the option to categorize them as "Transferred In State," "Transferred Out of State," or "Transferred Internationally." If the subtype covers transfers to multiple geographic areas, you can choose "Transfers Undesignated."

LIVE INTAKES	ADULT	UP TO 5 MONTHS	AGE UNKNOWN	TOTAL	DEFINITIONS
Stray/At Large					Stated to be unowned or free-roaming.
Relinquished by Owner					Admitted by owner, including adoption returns. All returns should be tracked as owner relinquishment.
Owner Intended Euthanasia					An Owner Intended Euthanasia is defined as a pet whose owner brought the pet to the shelter/community service clinic with the INTENT of requesting euthanasia due to a medical or behavior condition or the owner selects euthanasia as the best treatment option after consultation with a veterinarian. It is NOT defined as a euthanasia that takes place after an owner surrenders a pet WITHOUT the intent to euthanize and the shelter/rescue then determines the euthanasia outcome. (See page 2)
Transferred in from agency (in state)					Admission from another agency within the same state, for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
Transferred in from agency (out of state)					Admission from another agency in a different state, for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
Transferred in from agency (international)					Admission from another agency outside the US, for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
Impound/Seizure					Impounds for pets seized during cruelty cases or for protective custody. This does not include pets relinquished by their owners.
Other Intakes					Pets born while in care and other types of admission not captured above.
<b>TOTAL LIVE INTAKES</b>					

LIVE OUTCOMES	ADULT	UP TO 5 MONTHS	AGE UNKNOWN	TOTAL	DEFINITIONS
Adoption					Final adoptions, having permanently left the agency's possession, including barn cat programs resulting in adoption. It does NOT include animals in foster care or 'trial' stays.
Returned to Owner (RTO)					Stray or Owner Relinquished animals returned to their owner.
Transferred out to agency (in state)					Transferred out of the agency's possession to another entity within the same state or territory.
Transferred out to agency (out of state)					Transferred out of the agency's possession to another entity in a different state or territory.
Transferred out to agency (international)					Transferred out of the agency's possession to another entity outside the US.
Returned to Field (RTF)					Animals included in intake, already altered or altered after intake, and returned to stray capture location to be released (often referred to as SNR). This is not TNR, see definitions.
Other live outcomes					Other types of live outcome not captured above.
<b>TOTAL LIVE OUTCOMES</b>					

OTHER OUTCOMES	ADULT	UP TO 5 MONTHS	AGE UNKNOWN	TOTAL	DEFINITIONS
Died in Care					Animals who die, unassisted, while sheltered or fostered.
Lost in Care					Animals outcome is unknown (escaped the shelter, outcome not recorded and unknown).
Shelter Euthanasia					All euthanasia other than that performed by the definition below as owner intended euthanasia.
Owner Intended Euthanasia					An Owner Intended Euthanasia is defined as a pet whose owner brought the pet to the shelter/community service clinic with the INTENT of requesting euthanasia due to a medical or behavior condition or the owner selects euthanasia as the best treatment option after consultation with a veterinarian. (See page 2)
<b>TOTAL OTHER OUTCOMES</b>					

**Step 14:** Once you have mapped all of your intake and outcome subtypes, click **Save**. Your intakes and outcomes will be counted based on these preferences.

Outcome.ReturnToOwner	Redemption / Returned to Owner	Return to Owner
Outcome.UnassistedDeathInCustody	null	Died in Care
Outcome.Euthanasia	null	Shelter Euthanasia
Outcome.FeralWildlife	Released to Feral Colony	Return to field
Outcome.Euthanasia	Medical/Unhealthy/Untreatable	Shelter Euthanasia

**Save** **Cancel**



For larger organizations or organizations with many unique subtypes, it may take a few minutes for your choices to save. During that time you will see the save button display as "Mapping..."

Illness	Died in Care
Parasites: Scabies	Shelter Euthanasia

**Mapping...** **Cancel**

**Step 15:** After saving, check the list to confirm that all of your choices have saved and that you have mapped every item in the list. None of the lines should appear as "--" or "--Choose--"

SAC Category

--

SAC Category

-- Choose --



If your organization introduces a new subtype or utilizes a subtype that hasn't been used for more than a year, you must log in again and link it to its appropriate SAC category. Otherwise, those animals will not be included in the count.

Step 16: Never manually enter data *ever again!*



# Reminders Regarding the API

- You **MUST** complete the instructions for generating an API key and updating your SAC organization profile, AND map all of your subtypes for the API to correctly send data.
- Monthly data will automatically upload to your data portal on the **5th of each month** for the prior month (i.e. on August 1, July data will be uploaded).
  - We recommend you **confirm that the data came through correctly during the first month by viewing the data in your SAC portal.**
  - **If changes to the data are made after the data is sent, counts won't be updated**
- Feel free to log in anytime to adjust your mapping choices. It's important to note that any changes you make will only impact counts moving forward; previous counts will remain unchanged.
- You will still have the ability to make changes to the data by either uploading a CSV file or manually editing the data.
- You can **opt-out of the API at any time** by revoking the API key in your Shelterluv account

**For help email us!**



**[info@shelteranimalscount.org](mailto:info@shelteranimalscount.org)**