



SAVE A KITTY FERAL CAT PROGRAM, INC.

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NEWSLETTER

Welcome: As of this newsletter, we have sterilized over one-hundred (100) cats. We are always looking for sponsors and volunteers to help with our efforts. We currently need foster parents, colony caretakers, shelter builders and trapping assistance. We welcome students who would like to participate or need to establish community service hours. If you are interested in assisting in any way, please see our Website for more information at www.saveakitty.org We continuously need items for our clinics, such as: towels, old blankets or sheets, cat carriers, etc. If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact us @ our email address: saveakittyferalcatprogram@yahoo.com

Special Relocation Request: Twenty-six cats and several kittens were relocated for safety reasons from a large company near Charleston, WV. The urgent call came in because the animals were going to be professionally trapped and most likely sent to their death, since most were unadoptable. Save a Kitty volunteers made a trip to Charleston to train their volunteers on how to use the humane traps. We are happy to report the relocated cats are doing great and they are being altered at a local veterinary office. The specifics of the location and those involved will not be publicized due to the sensitivity of the subject and also to protect the cats and their caretakers. Special thanks to Ed Bays, our Trapping Coordinator for his help.

Monthly Meetings: Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. will continue to meet on the first and third Mondays of each month. If a holiday falls on these days, the meeting will be held on Tuesday. All meetings are held at the Knights of Columbus council home, 1010 Market Street @ 7 p.m.

Foster/Adoption Program: Our Foster/Adoption program is growing and we are helping many cats

and kittens find loving, permanent homes. If you are interested in fostering for our program, an application is required. If you know of someone else interested, please direct them to our website or contact Tina Gilbert, Foster/Adoption Coordinator @ (304) 422-0182 or email her at talkot@zzzip.net



Most Recent Adoption: This tiny girl was adopted just a few days ago. Her twin sister went home with her and they are doing wonderful. They are two happy kitties as of this moment. Thanks to Jessica Beswick for making them part of her family. Their two little brothers and mommy are still waiting for a wonderful home. Please see our kitties at www.petfinder.com

Local Band Performance: Some local bands performed at City Park Pavilion on Sunday, June 26. All proceeds from the show were donated to Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. spay/neuter fund. A total of \$445.00 was raised. We are especially thankful and it was a great show. Special thanks to The Eleventh Plague, Holden Caufield, Fairweather Fan, To Kill or Cure and A Suburban Blood Drive for their performance.

ShelterCare Insurance: With each of our adoptions we are able to offer 30 days free pet insurance to our adopters for their new addition to the family. The insurance covers many conditions and is effective almost immediately. This is a wonderful benefit brought to you by ShelterCare and PetFinder.com. With the expense of owning a pet, this is truly a great benefit for your new family member. After 30 days, you can contact the company and continue the insurance if you are interested. It automatically cancels after 30 days.

National Homeless Animals' Day: Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. will be sponsoring this special day with a candlelight vigil at the Parkersburg City Park on Saturday, August 20, to increase public awareness of the millions of healthy dogs and cats killed each year for the lack of a good home. A candlelight vigil observance not only memorializes the animals that have been euthanized because they were unwanted or abandoned, but also honors the many dedicated, caring people who work selflessly to an overwhelming tide of cruelty and abuse, the tragic result of animal overpopulation. Please light a candle on this special day to honor these special animals. Visit our Website for periodic updates on this event. www.saveakitty.org

Stay in Touch: Many of our rescued cats and kittens are now in wonderful permanent homes. We would like to feature your pet on our Website and in a future newsletter edition. If you have recent pictures that you would like to share with us, please send them to Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc., PO Box 1442, Parkersburg, WV 26102. Pictures will be returned, if needed.

Honorable Mention: Our program would like to thank Karen Mahone and Terri Santiago for their continued support. Karen and Terri have regularly donated cat food to supplement the daily feedings of our feral and homeless cats and kittens. We truly appreciate your kindness and generosity. You have truly made a difference in some animal's lives.

Feral Cat/Kitten Care: Making friends with a feral is a gradual process requiring months of consistent feeding, soft words and gentle gestures, but there's no statute of limitations on the wonders love can work. When someone tells you that feral cats are impossible to tame, laugh

loudly and refer them to the many that we have successfully tamed and they will set them straight. Most kittens are easily socialized if caught before eight (8) weeks. It is not impossible to tame an older kitten or cat, it just requires more time and patience, and unfortunately, only a true cat lover has the compassion and dedication required.

Cat Happiness: The scoop on kitty litter. Cats vary in their preferences about litter box design and type of litter but all require a reasonable amount of privacy and sanitary conditions. Most cats want their litter box cleaned at least once a day, twice is better. As for the box itself, it should be a little bigger than the cat that will use it, shaped so he or she can turn around comfortably and high enough on the sides so aiming won't be a problem. It should be in an out of the way place that is not close to their feeding area. The ideal home has one box per cat, plus one for emergencies.

Kitty litter is crucial. There are dozens of brands made of everything from clay to wood shavings to lemon-scented newspaper pellets. I don't understand the last one, since citrus is a natural cat repellent? I recommend the un-scented. Most important is that the litter be changed at least once a week and the boxes washed with mild soap and water as often as necessary to keep them immaculate. We've all met dirty dogs and dirty birds but there is no such thing as a "dirty cat". The only time not to clean the litter box is when you're relocating. That's when people should take along a box containing slightly soiled litter to let their cats know they have a new home.

Wisconsin Feral Cats update: The wildlife advisory group that raised the idea of hunting feral cats in Wisconsin to protect the state's songbirds has let the controversial plan die. Shortly after Governor Jim Doyle said the proposal was making Wisconsin a laughingstock, the Conservation Congress in May announced it was no longer pursuing the plan. The ensuing national outcry would have made moving the proposal through the state legislature and onto the governor's desk extremely difficult. **Victory** for our feral and homeless cats!

Did You Know? (Cat Trivia)

Cats love garlic. This is why so many cats love Italian food.