



ALLEY CAT RESCUE

ALLIANCE FOR CAT PROTECTION

Alley Cat Rescue, Inc. is a 501c(3) non-profit dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of cats everywhere.

www.SaveACat.org • 301-277-5595 • PO Box 96499, Washington, DC 20077

NO COMPASSION FOR CATS

By Louise Holton

It gives me no pleasure to say that many modern day environmentalists show absolutely no compassion towards animals such as feral cats. In fact their actions are particularly cruel and callous.

I started out in the early 1970s as an environmentalist. I supported wildlife groups in South Africa working to save cheetahs and elephants. In the mid-1970s I started including other animals in my work, helping the Johannesburg SPCA to TNR outdoor cats.

In the U.S. I have founded two groups working on feral cat issues, to promote humane, nonlethal control for feral cats. In 1990 the policy was to catch-and-kill.

When environmentalists saw our success and TNRs popularity among the public, they formed coalitions and started fighting humane methods. Scapegoating cats every time they could, with exaggerated studies of cat predation, and every other scare tactic. They used rabies in cats as a scare tactic, even though the last cat to infect a human with rabies was 45 years ago. In fact, TNR creates a barrier between humans and wildlife, as feral cats are vaccinated against rabies.

No person in the U.S. has died of rabies acquired from a cat since 1975. This last incident occurred in Minnesota, when a 60-year-old man was bitten on the finger and died approximately seven weeks later (*Human Rabies in the U.S., 2013*).

They ignored a study that showed cats usually kill sickly animals— which keeps populations healthy. Research in France compared the health of birds killed by cats with the health of birds killed in accidents such as flying into windows. They found that the birds killed by cats were weak or infirm and had smaller



*ACR's South African Project
Photo by Nicci Baumann*

spleens, an indicator of disease or parasite infestations. This supports what biologists who have studied cat predation have been saying for years: most birds caught by cats are a “doomed surplus,” often in poor health, and would have died anyway. Most healthy birds will escape from the clutches of cats and go on to develop skills at avoiding feline predation in the future. They pass along these skills to their offspring. This is the ingenious way that nature helps animals to thrive and survive. Charles Darwin referred to this as the “survival of the fittest.”

Now to come to my initial statement that environmentalists show no compassion. Los Angeles is a vivid and tragic example.

Los Angeles shelters used to issue vouchers to sterilize feral cats in L.A. which helped to keep the numbers down. In 2008 the City was sued over this by environmental groups and the court issued an injunction prohibiting the city from distributing any

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CALL TO ACTION

If you get mail from environmental groups please ask them what their policy is on feral cats and TNR. Explain to them that TNR really does work and is a humane solution. Catch-and-kill simply does not work. Sanctuaries will also not work, there are too many feral cats to put in sanctuaries and who will pay for them?

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spay vouchers. They were prohibited from even giving out any information to help street cats.

A misguided attempt, as the only way to keep numbers in check is to sterilize the animals so no new litters are born, and sterilization puts an end to the suffering of feral cats on the streets.

This action against outdoor cats has resulted in an explosion of cats on the streets and led to record intakes of cats at the shelters. Tens of thousands of cats have suffered and died on the streets. Spaying and neutering them saves them from suffering and makes cats healthier. Alley Cat Rescue stepped in 7 years ago in L.A. and we have been spaying and neutering around 40-100 cats per week. One day in July we TNRd 200 cats. But it's just not enough. We have to increase the numbers greatly to help make any real difference.

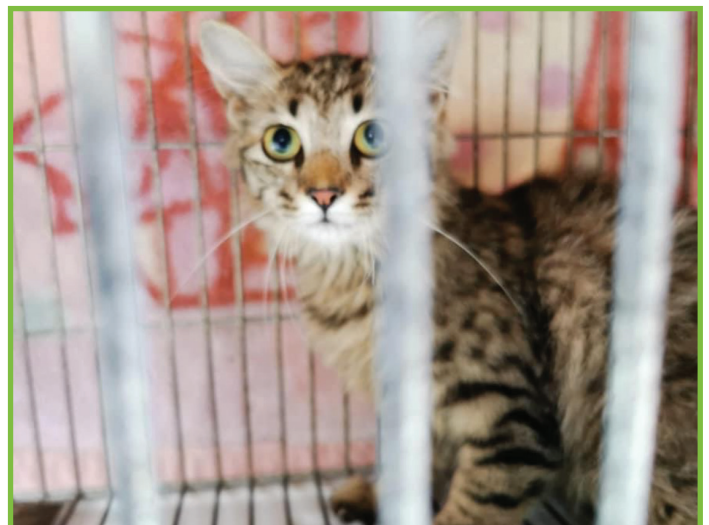
There are an estimated 2 million feral cats in L.A. It is really cruel that not only have officials blocked from implementing TNR programs themselves, but they were also not allowed to mention or suggest the process to residents, or even refer them to outside TNR groups.

This left the fate of these animals in the hands of individuals and smaller groups like ACR. Despite the factual evidence, this court injunction was implemented and ultimately resulted in a lot of suffering. Earlier this year during Kitten Season, we came upon many, many kittens with infections and parasites. Cats scrounge in trash for food and they still manage to have litter after litter of kittens. Additionally, due to lack of care, they often fall victim as a host to parasites and upper respiratory infections (URIs). URIs are highly contagious and spread quickly when the virus symptoms are present, therefore affecting large swaths of the cat population. Parasites

also have a rapid spread rate, inflicting thousands of cats. When cats are afflicted with these diseases, they need fluids, antibiotics, and often need to be force fed. Many have high fevers and need to be taken to emergency clinics immediately or they will die from the high fevers. Ultimately, the cats need around-the-clock care which is difficult to achieve due to a lack of resources.

The highest number of deaths is ascribed to euthanasia practices in L.A. shelters, a result of the lack of TNR. The situation in L.A. is very concerning and will not improve without a strong TNR program supported by the city. We are not sure what the environmental groups who banned TNR thought would happen – that all feral cats on the streets would just die out? The cats can survive on rats and on the trash we humans throw away.

As we go to press Los Angeles' Injunction is finally up for review. Hopefully the injunction will be lifted, despite environmental groups still protesting. Again, they do not care at all about the suffering of individual cats.



CELEBRATING A WONDERFUL CAT: GRANDPAW HARROW

Harrow was found while we were working on a trap-neuter-return project in Los Angeles in July 2019. He was begging to go indoors, but was unable to find shelter as his person passed away, and the remaining family members would not let him back inside. When we found him, he was emaciated, covered in fleas, an awful, dirty matted coat and a totally mangled left ear. After he was hospitalized, we discovered he was also suffering from stomatitis. He had to be hospitalized on IV antibiotics and needed a blood transfusion for his severe anemia. It took months to stabilize this poor guy. Despite everything, even all his treatments, everyone that met him fell in love with him.

He had never been neutered and was FIV positive. This is commonly transferred to male cats through fights and deep bites from other FIV positive cats.

Grandpaw Harrow proved to be an incredible help to the Alley Cat Rescue team. Not only was he one of the sweetest cats we've ever come across, he took on the role of "Grandpaw" quite seriously! Whenever we brought in foster kittens, Harrow always made sure to comfort them and show them how to "cat". He kept them warm and provided lots of snuggles and was wonderful company for them too. Despite all of the hardships he went through, he was so full of love. At the end Harrow developed cancer and despite treatment he passed away in August. We will miss Grandpaw Harrow very much and we hope to continue to honor him through ACR's work.



LOS ANGELES TNR UPDATE

At Alley Cat Rescue, we believe in the power of TNR. TNR, or Trap-Neuter-Return, is a humane and effective program for managing outdoor, free-roaming cat populations. We are committed to performing TNR on as many cats as possible to improve the lives of street cats. TNR greatly improves cat health. During this process, community cats are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped for identification, and returned to their outdoor home. This reduces the number of kittens being born on the streets and leads to the decrease of kittens brought into the shelters and the number of cats euthanized in shelters.

This past year has been very busy for Alley Cat Rescue as we continue events. All cats were sterilized, vaccinated, given long-term antibiotics and other medication or treatment needed. Once recovered from surgery the community cats were returned back to their homes. To get involved please visit our website at www.saveacat.org to learn how!



ADOPTIONS IN LA

Mama Brandy and Roo, Bonnie, Clyde, Olive, & Truffle

You may have heard about Roo, our 3-legged social media star! He was adopted to a happy and loving home. But did you know that Roo had **four other siblings** from his litter?

ACR always focuses on the whole family and we always try and make sure we rescue kittens with their mom. This is not always easy, as mom can sometimes be terrified of humans and will hide as they watch their babies being taken away. This benefits all of the family. Not only does mom get to stay with her babies, but the babies have a much higher chance of survival! When kittens are rescued with mom, they are able to get the perfect food directly from mom as well as plenty of care and snuggles.



Cantsbee & Cece

Cece was dumped at one of our partner veterinary offices while she was in labor on a Sunday morning. After an ultrasound revealed that several kittens had died and were blocking her birth canal, the vets had to do an emergency C-section. The remaining two kittens were born alive. Sadly, despite all attempts to save his life, one kitten died two days later. This left baby Cantsbee as the only survivor.

This was very traumatic for the young mom Cece and she had to remain in ICU for the first week for close monitoring and IV fluids and medication. As Cantsbee was only a couple of days old, our dedicated team took over bottle feeding the neonatal. Once Cece was discharged from hospital, Cantsbee was finally able to nurse from his mom. Cece was a wonderful mom, and totally loved her surviving baby. She was only six months old, so just a baby herself. They both flourished and their health improved. They have now both been adopted into wonderful homes and doing great. We love happy endings!

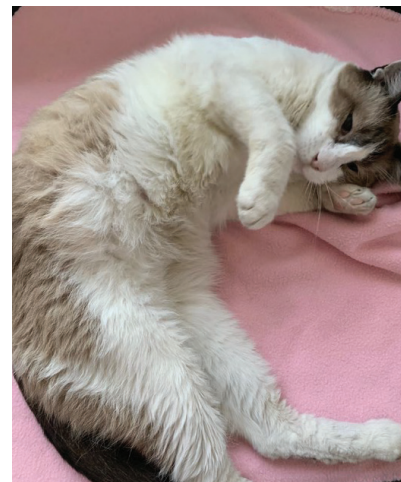


MOVING CATS TO SAFETY

In Los Angeles, there is an estimated feral cat population of over 2 million cats. Reports show that Los Angeles has the highest feral cat population in the United States, all due to the court injunction that bans city shelters from promoting or performing TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return).

Shelters are overwhelmed and euthanasia rates are up for California. California now ranks as #1 in the most euthanasia for pets.

One solution to rising numbers of cats is by adopting them out of state. Oregon has progressive TNR policies, strong spay neuter and adoption policies. They regularly run low on having cats available for their residents to adopt. To help with the overpopulation in Southern California, ACR completed monthly cat transports to Oregon and Northern California. We rescued all of these cats from the streets of Los Angeles. They were fully vetted; including sterilization, vaccinations, microchipped, dewormed, and treated for fleas before transport. Each month we have sponsored the transport of 20 cats.



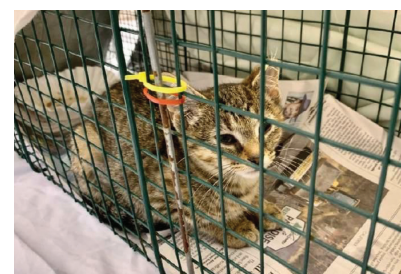
HELPING SICK CATS OFF THE STREETS

We don't just help kittens. We come across friendly adult cats too! Simba was found in a supermarket parking lot during LA's heat wave. It was a stifling 110 degrees. When we first came across him, we thought he was blind. Turns out, it was a dire case of upper respiratory infection. Luckily, we were able to provide him with the care and medication he needed, and his URI has healed up. He's currently staying in a foster home and is available for adoption.



ROANOKE

As many of you already know, we have running operations in Roanoke, VA where we sterilize feral cats. This as you can imagine, was difficult to maintain, as clinics were shut down for a while due to the pandemic. It was even more difficult to maintain when you take into consideration that we opened a month later in Roanoke than Maryland. Despite all of these pitfalls, we have sterilized



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URGENTLY NEEDED: A Used Car for Los Angeles



Alley Cat Rescue is always on the move, whether it's traveling to and from TNR (trap-neuter-return) projects, transporting cats, taking strays to the vet for medical treatment, or driving to a managed colony to ensure they are taken care of and well-fed. It is important that we have a reliable vehicle to ensure a safe way to transport these sweet alley cats!

We urgently need a van to transport feral cats in traps to the spay clinic several times a week in Los Angeles. Los Angeles is currently undergoing a crisis, where thousands of unsterilized cats are roaming the streets. Alley Cat Rescue is doing our best to help stop kittens from being born on the streets. 50% of these kittens get sick from treatable diseases and can die if left untreated.

We're also looking for a donation of another vehicle for our program in Maryland. Do you have a car or van to help us with our daily operations?

Please contact us to learn more about vehicle donation. Not only is your contribution tax deductible, you will gain peace of mind knowing that your old vehicle is being used to save cats' lives!



Help Save Cats' Lives by Supporting Our Work

Planned Giving

Annuities can help you reach your personal financial goals and strengthen your commitment to our work helping cats. Enjoy tax savings and turn appreciated assets into income for yourself. Charitable gift annuities allow you to make a gift of \$10,000 or more and receive fixed interest payments for life, as well as tax deductions. For more information, contact your financial planner or get in touch with us:

Alley Cat Rescue
Phone: 301-277-5595
Email: acr@saveacat.org
Mail: PO Box 585, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712

Wills and Bequests

You can support our work for cats long into the future by including Alley Cat Rescue, Inc. in your estate plans. This will ensure that the love and care you show for cats continues on, and provides you with the peace of mind that your legacy will provide for cats in need. Contact your financial planner to determine the best way to support Alley Cat Rescue, Inc. in your estate plan.

Suggested bequest language: "I give (specific dollar amount or property) to Alley Cat Rescue, Inc., having its principle office at 3906 Rhode Island Ave., Brentwood, MD 20722, for its general purpose to help stray, abandoned, and feral cats and kittens. Tax ID: 52-2279100."

CALL-TO-ACTION

Save Birds from Poisonous Pesticides!

Alley Cat Rescue loves all animals, cats and birds alike. Unfortunately, due to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), our current administration is removing many restrictions on extremely dangerous pesticides. These pesticides are so dangerous they are in fact illegal in many parts of the world. These pesticides are known as neonicotinoids and have led to a 2% drop in the US bird population compared to other countries where neonicotinoids are illegal. This pesticide is also linked to the massive bee population loss.

Farmers use neonicotinoids directly on seeds, so when birds feed on seeds, they're immediately infected with toxins. The combined bird population loss of the United States and Canada is 30%, but we most likely won't know how serious the effects are for years.

Please sign the petition at <https://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/686/341/190/> and demand that the EPA bans the use of neonicotinoids in the United States!

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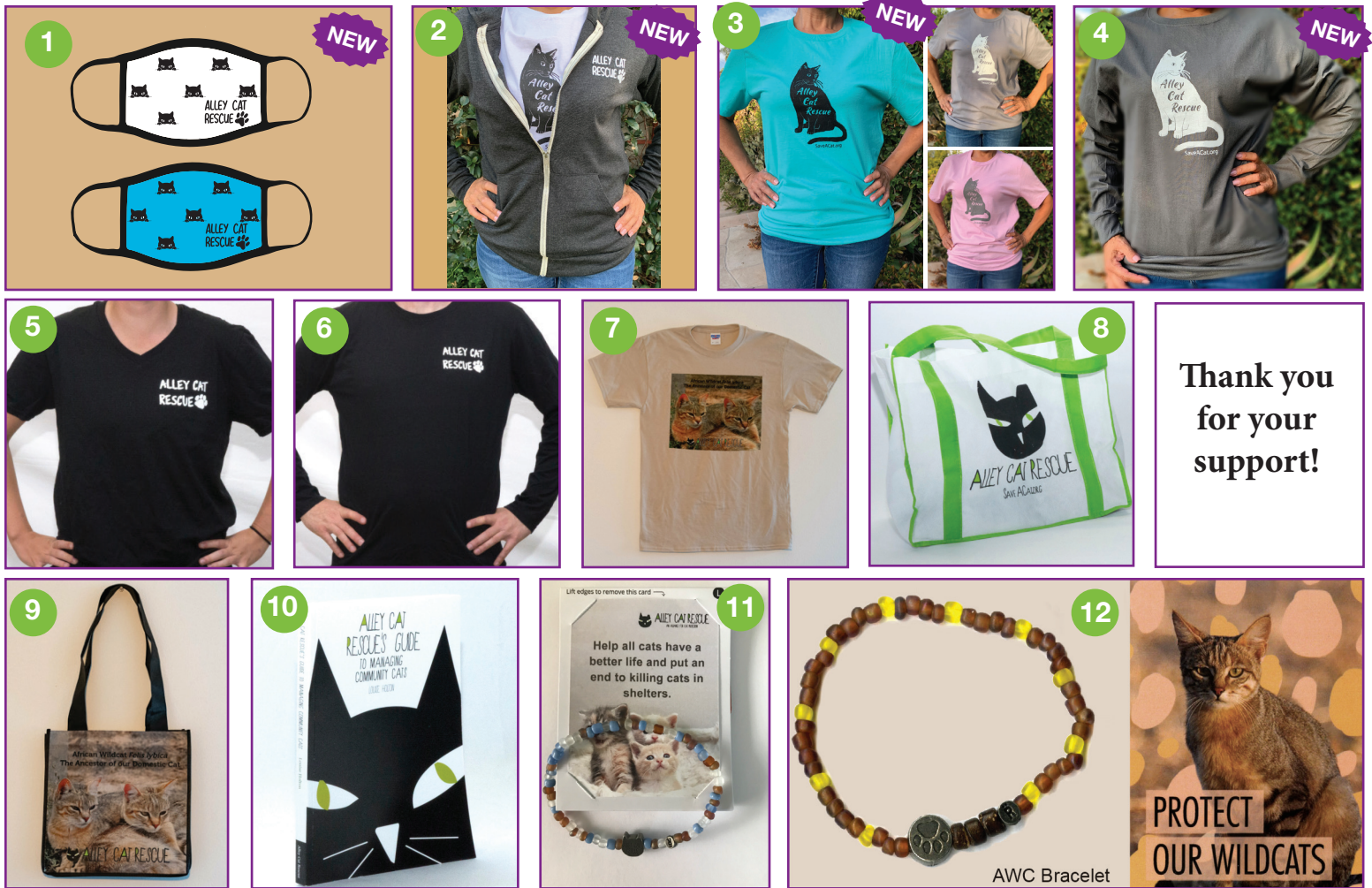
almost 4,000 cats to date and aim to keep the momentum going!

We have held multiple spay/neuter events over the past four years and have done several training sessions. We have assisted to help develop their operations, a hands-on trapping and TNR training with volunteers from the community, and recruited local volunteers to learn how to trap to help curb feral cat overpopulation.

HAWAII UPDATE

We have some great news! Mayor Kirk Caldwell of Honolulu has accepted the appeal to help feed cats in Oahu Park. The initial appeal allowed caretakers to enter state parks to feed cats that lived there so they wouldn't starve to death. The main issue was closing down the park to avoid risk of coronavirus during the pandemic. However, there is little to no risk when cat colony caretakers (which are few and far between) simply go in with appropriate PPE to take care of these kitties. We are so happy that this appeal has been accepted by the city so that cat caretakers can continue to go into Oahu Park to take care of all the cats that reside there.





ORDER FORM

Name _____ Order Total \$ _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

#	ITEM	PRICE	SIZE (Please Circle)	# OF ITEMS	TOTAL
1	ACR Face Mask	\$12	\$20 for 2		\$
2	Zip Up Hoodie	\$40	S M L XL 2XL		\$
3	T-shirt Short: Grey, White, Teal, Lilac	\$25	S M L XL 2XL		\$
4	T-shirt long sleeve: Grey	\$30	S M L XL 2XL		\$
5	Black V-neck T-shirt	\$20	S M L		\$
6	Black long sleeve T-shirt	\$25	S M L XL 2XL		\$
7	African Wildcat T-shirt	\$16	M L XL		\$
8	Canvas Handbag: Green, Grey, Blue, Black	\$12	N/A		\$
9	African Wildcat Shoulder Tote Bag	\$10	N/A		\$
10	Cat Rescue's Guide to Managing Community Cats Paperback Book	\$9	N/A		\$
11	ACR Bracelet	\$10	S M L		\$
12	African Wildcat Bracelet - Help save the African Wildcat	\$10	S M L		\$

SUB TOTAL	\$
Sales Tax	+\$
Shipping**	+7.00
Donation	+\$
TOTAL	\$

Please send checks made out to Alley Cat Rescue or provide your credit card information below.

Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Card Number _____ CCV# _____

Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Maryland residents ONLY 6%.
 **There is a flat shipping rate of \$7.00 for ALL purchases.
 All donations are tax-deductible.

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