



Alley Cat Rescue, Inc.

ALLEY CAT Mews

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Cats and Coyotes, Living in Harmony

by Maggie Funkhouser

Animals are all around us. They live along side us in the remaining patches of green that fill in the cracks of concrete and asphalt that stretch out across the Earth's surface. They live in the shadows, unseen by most and simply ignored by others. While humans are part of the animal kingdom, we tend to ignore this fact and live separately from our fellow animal neighbors. We have become too distracted and consumed by thoughts of our own lives that we have left little time to be concerned for others in our community. And when our lives do intersect with the wildlife around us, a lot of times, we do not respond respectfully nor compassionately and animals pay the ultimate price with their lives.



What animals once knew of lush forests and fertile prairie lands, clean lakes and rivers, have now been bulldozed and drained for animal agriculture and industry. We have pushed our animal neighbors out of their homes and we continue to squeeze them into smaller and smaller tracts of land. Busy highways, train tracks, and airports crisscross the country, segmenting ecosystems and introducing pollution to surrounding habitats. Wildlife has nowhere to go, but into the suburbs and cities, because areas of wilderness are vanishing and land is becoming scarce.

Raccoons, opossums, groundhogs, foxes, and even coyotes can be found living under our porches and in our alleyways, scavenging for food in garbage cans and dumpsters. They make nests and dens in our crawlspaces, sheds, and bushes. They raise litters of young and establish territorial boundaries. These animals go about their daily routines just as you and I do and just as the feral cats do that we provide care for. **The least we can do is show our fellow neighbors some due respect and extend our circle of compassion.** There is no reason to use forceful, lethal methods to resolve unwanted wildlife issues, especially when humane, nonlethal solutions are available.

Living with Coyotes

Members of the dog family, coyotes are common throughout North America, Mexico, and Central America. They're curious, adaptable, and quick learners. Coyotes often mate for life, are devoted parents, and are highly communicative through barks, yips, and howls. You will hear or see them more during mating season (Dec-Feb) and when juveniles leave their family groups (Sept-Nov).

Study Examines Outdoor Cats and Urban Coyotes

A recent study published in the online journal *PLOS ONE* illustrates how coyotes and outdoor cats share space and interact with one another in urban areas. According to the study, coyotes chose to occupy natural habitats (parks, green space) whereas outdoor cats chose to reside in developed areas (near businesses, houses). Unlike cats who seek out people, if a coyote is spotted in a backyard, he is just passing through to the next natural area.

The study's lead author, Stan Gehrt, associate professor of environment and natural resources at Ohio State University also pointed out that, "It reduces the cats' vulnerability to coyotes, but at the same time, it means the coyotes are essentially protecting these natural areas from cat predation." So it's a win-win situation. The coyotes help maintain balanced ecosystems in our cities' parks and recreational areas, while cats control rodent populations in our cities' commercial and residential areas; while both coyotes and cats avoid each other.

Another important observation from this study once again shows that outdoor cats live longer and are healthier than previously suspected. Most cats had good body condition, with only minor injuries. Blood tests also revealed a low exposure to FIV and FeLV. The authors noted that cats who were TNR'd exhibited even better body condition. Only 20 percent of cats died during the two-year study. Based on such a high survival rate, coyotes don't prey on cats as much as people think they do.

Gehrt, Stanley D., et al. "Population Ecology of Free-Roaming Cats and Interference Competition by Coyotes in Urban Parks." *PLoS ONE* 8, no.9 (September 13, 2013): e75718. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0075718.

Coyotes help keep ecosystems vital, healthy, and clean. They are carnivores, preying mostly on rabbits and rodents; however, they will eat whatever food source is available including vegetation, insects, and carrion. Coyotes will also eat chickens and sheep from nearby farms. Countless coyotes are killed every year by farmers, ranchers, and the U.S. government in the name of protecting livestock. In 2013 alone, the U.S. Wildlife Services slaughtered over 75,000 coyotes. And in most states, these animals have no legal protection from abuse; towns hold annual killing contests to see who can "bag" the most coyotes.

Coyotes are naturally wary of people, but they can habituate to our presence and the reliable food sources that we provide (i.e. garbage cans, dumpsters, compost piles).

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The Evolution of Shelter Medicine for Homeless Animals



The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) says, "Society is demanding medical care, rather than euthanasia, for shelter animals with treatable conditions—according to veterinarians in the field of shelter medicine." Shelter medicine has emerged as a unique practice by a growing group of people who want to solve problems that start with dog and cat overpopulation.

Some veterinary colleges now include shelter medicine in courses, externships,

rotations, and residencies. The Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV), which was recently formed in 2001, has already enrolled more than 1500 members and established about a dozen student chapters since its formation. Additionally, animal shelters are hiring more staff veterinarians.

The Development of Shelter Medicine

No-kill shelters like the one ACR runs, treat any animal who will survive after treatment and will not suffer. Instead of immediately euthanizing sick or injured animals, no-kill shelters are treating the "treatables." The development of shelter medicine over the last 15 years has helped make it possible to give shelter animals the same chance at treatment as animals with homes. Shelter medicine is now at that stage where it is becoming a specialty, covering all aspects of shelter care. Just last April, the AVMA officially recognized shelter medicine as a specialty.

Richard Avanzino, former head of the San Francisco SPCA who ran one of the first no-kill shelters in the U.S. has said, "Shelter medicine is a hybrid between herd medicine and companion animal care." Today shelter veterinarians go to great lengths to save individual animals and not just to treat populations as a whole. Of course cost does play a significant part, but no-kill shelters are thriving, so this new ideology of shelter medicine must be working.

The Evolution of a "No-Kill" Approach to Animal Welfare

The reexamination of how shelters traditionally treated companion animals started in 1989 when Ed Duvin, a long-time animal activist and historian of social change, wrote an article titled, "In The Name of Mercy." He wrote this after his own realization that many animal activists had essentially walked away from helping companion animals. Commenting on his article, Duvin said:

I was thoroughly immersed in articulating a larger vision for other beings, and there was no time or inclination for the dog-and-cat set. After all, the 'new movement' was charting an exciting course for the future, and there were ample humane societies and SPCAs to cope with unfinished business from the past. It will be to my everlasting shame that so many years passed before I heard the screams of those animals closest to me.

Duvin continued by saying:

When I finally wrote 'In the Name of Mercy,' it did not take long to recognize that I had struck a nerve. This was the intention, as 'Mercy' was crafted to produce discomfort with the status quo so much that never again would millions of companion animals be 'euthanized' as a matter of routine.

Alley Cat Rescue was established as a means of changing the way outdoor community cats have traditionally been managed in our society. Our dedicated work has been to educate shelters on the benefits of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) for community cats and for the shelters themselves. Wrongly considered by some to be pests, invasive species, and aliens, they were and still are labeled as "dangerous and a nuisance" and are trapped and killed. This is especially true in the environmental movement - although we believe conservationists may be forced to change their minds, if they pay attention to what is happening in Tasmania right now, and of course the latest news coming from Marion Island (read more on these studies on page 3).

According to "Out the Front Door," a blog that examines animal sheltering in the U.S.:

Fifteen years ago there was no shelter medicine specialty and most people thought that a shelter job was the bottom of the barrel for a veterinarian. The first formal class in shelter medicine did not take place until 1999. It was a cooperative effort between the ASPCA and Cornell University and was taught by Dr. Jan Scarlett and Dr. Lila Miller. Also in 1999 Maddie's Fund awarded a grant for the first shelter medicine residency program, at the University of California at Davis. The resident was Dr. Kate Hurley, who is now head of the UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program. ... In 2002, UC Davis started its pioneer shelter medicine program. In 2004 a textbook of veterinary medicine was published.

Dr. Julie D. Dinnage, a founder of ASV who works at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals comments, "As much as we pay attention to the individual animal, we always have to be mindful and watch the entire population." Dr. Dinnage points out that animal shelters range in capacity from fewer than a hundred animals annually to tens of thousands. It is critical that shelter veterinarians understand principles of surgery, pharmacology, preventive medicine, infectious disease, epidemiology, and public health—as well as how to work with the resources that are available.



Traditionally, response to a disease outbreak in a shelter has been euthanasia, however, shelters are starting to isolate sick animals and administer treatment. And more thought is being put into the actual design of shelters to minimize disease transmission.

Of course at the heart of shelter management is preventing unwanted cats and kittens from being born in the first place. That's why Alley Cat Rescue offers a subsidized spay/neuter program here in Maryland for residents with low incomes and for caretakers of feral cat colonies. If you wish to donate towards this program, we will designate your funds specifically for this. Simply mark your check in the memo section: "ACR SPAY NEUTER PROGRAM." Thank you for your continued support in improving shelter medicine and care for homeless animals.

Compassionate Campaigns that AdvoCATE and EduCATE

by Adam Jablonski



Each day at Alley Cat Rescue begins with a thorough check on all the cats and kittens we're caring for at the moment. Everyone clean and healthy? Check. Plenty of food and fresh water? Check. Then there are a few good morning head scratches, maybe a quick fur brushing, and only then does the work with *humans* begin.

On a daily basis, we speak with people on a wide variety of cat subjects. We provide tips and instructions to seasoned and rookie colony caretakers alike. We also help just as many domestic cat caretakers on topics like cat behavior, litter box difficulties, new food adjustment, and integrating new cats into a family, just to name a few. We are specialists and experts when it comes to Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), but we're also a comprehensive resource for the public regarding all things cat. And in the rare circumstance where we can't provide direct assistance ourselves, we know someone who can, and we connect the resource with the cat and person needing help.

Our chief advocacy goal is to make TNR the standard for humane feral cat management. Our approach involves educating as well as persuading. We strive to reach as many people as possible with our information, and we do that through electronic channels such as our website, E-News, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, as well as more traditional publications like our upcoming handbook, *Alley Cat Rescue's Guide to Managing Community Cats*, due out later this year. We write letters to the editor in support of TNR and humane cat policies, and respond with facts and a civil tone to those who do not value the lives of cats as we do. We were even able to run a radio public service announcement for Feral Cat Spay Day this year,

continued from cover page



In urban settings, different animal species are able to coexist without much incident, living side by side, even sharing meals and shelter together. However, when food is scarce, animals will defend their limited resources and a once benign neighbor is now likely to become a meal. A new study shows that cats and coyotes usually avoid each other by occupying different habitats, but during times of hardship, coyotes will prey on cats and small dogs. Like most animals, coyotes will venture even closer to humans in search of sustenance.

When caring for outdoor cats, it is always cautioned to keep feeding areas clean as to not attract other wildlife. **Do not leave excess food lying around and try not to feed cats at night**, when other animals are most active. **Elevate feeding stations, pick up all trash, and feed cats away from buildings** to reduce human interactions. Domestic cats should be brought inside during the night, and

thanks to a generous supporter in Florida.

As advocates of TNR, we believe that some feral cats belong outdoors, in the places they've already made their homes. Similarly, we believe in getting the heck out of the office ourselves sometimes! Our work out in the community involves holding regular adoption events and attending community events like summer festivals and conferences. We find these opportunities to talk face-to-face with our neighbors particularly effective in building support for cat welfare and TNR, and in keeping abreast of local issues and happenings that impact our work.

Building this community support is what helps us in another of our pursuits, convincing municipalities and elected officials of the merits of TNR. We now work closely with two local code enforcement officers doing TNR and rescuing animals in need. These on-the-ground officers are an important ally for caretakers and groups, as they can directly judge the impact of local laws and report to higher-ups when they see (or we tell them) that regulations are onerous or an impediment to caring for feral cats.



Request our informational brochure!

In conjunction with other area groups, we also recently met with a key Department of Natural Resources specialist, providing him with thorough information on TNR, answering his questions, and giving him a tour of one of our local colonies. There was not an ear-tipped cat in sight as it was the daytime, but we were able to show off what a clean, tidy, and well-maintained feeding site can look like when there is cooperation between property owners and caretakers, and when there are adequate resources to support the cats. And he let us know in a follow-up letter that he was impressed with our work and grateful for the new information we brought to his attention.

Compassion for cats is what drives our work, and we are never short of that resource. It is your financial contribution that allows us to turn that compassion into action advocating for not only TNR, but the humane treatment and welfare of all cats, in all fifty states, and even abroad. We hope that you will continue to support our work, and we will continue to bring you stories of the progress we are making together for the benefit of cats everywhere.

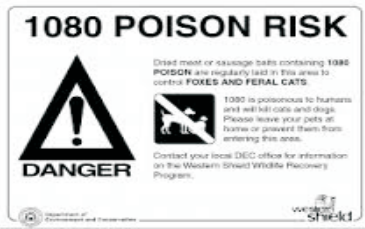
providing fenced areas that only feral cats can access will offer added protection. In open areas, you can erect posts with perches about ten to twelve feet high to give outdoor cats a place to escape to if a coyote should appear. The cats will be able to climb the posts but the coyote will not. **Only appreciate coyotes from a distance; never try to approach one.** If you do encounter a coyote, do not run. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and walk toward the coyote until he retreats. **Be "Big, Bad, and Loud."** Always be alert and aware of your surroundings when feeding outdoor cats, making note of other wildlife that may be present. And be sure to share these few simple safety tips with friends and family, so that we may decrease conflicts with coyotes and other wildlife.

These native carnivores, along with foxes, bobcats, mountain lions, etc, deserve our respect and should be valued for their ecological roles and their intrinsic worth. Please do your part to coexist peacefully with all wildlife, and when lethal management practices are proposed, let your voice be heard. **No matter the species, all animals should be managed humanely, without lethal force.** For more information on living with coyotes and how you can help protect our native "Song Dog," please visit ProjectCoyote.org.

New Plans for New Poisons Bad News for Feral Cats and Wildlife

by Adam Jablonski

Australia's long crusade against feral cats is continuing, and while the country is currently reviewing its official feral cat management practices, it is unfortunately not prioritizing any new humane solutions. In a recent Action Alert, we brought to your attention that the government is no longer calling for full eradication of feral cats from the continent, but it is not because they've changed their opinions about cats. They've simply lowered the bar to killing as many as possible.



This tempering of language only disguises the fact that Australia is still on the wrong path when it comes to managing feral cats. Pursuing this “eradication-lite” strategy ignores the lessons still being learned on Marion Island, where the elimination of cats

(which took “only” 19 years to achieve) has led to an explosion in the population of mice, which just so happen to prey on some of the same sea birds the South African government sought to protect from feral cats.¹ With the cats gone, the mice are now literally ruling the roost.

A recent study on Tasmania, the island state off the Southern coast of Australia, should also have given mainland officials pause, as it showed regular trapping and shooting of feral cats over a thirteen-month period actually led to an increase in the overall colony populations between 75 and 211 percent.² The study's author told Australian media recently, “In the areas that I had tried to reduce cat numbers, I recorded an increase in cat numbers. I actually had more cats running around on those sites than beforehand.”³

In line with this study, the new Draft Threat Abatement Plan⁴ describes shooting as a not particularly effective nor efficient method of cat management; it is very labor intensive to send shooters out into the wild, and they must be highly skilled in order to hit their targets. So instead the plan is focusing on another lethal control method, creating and deploying poison baits that are hand-placed or dropped from airplanes or helicopters. The two poisons touted are Eradicat, which contains the well-known 1080 poison that has been used to kill foxes in Australia since the 1990s, and a newer, “improved” version called Curiosity.

The 1080 poison is an indiscriminate killer, and it also causes immense suffering before death. The Natural Resources Defense Council says, “[d]eath by Compound 1080 is excruciating and slow (it usually takes between 3 and 15 hours). Exposure can result in cardiac failure, progressive failure of the central nervous system, or respiratory arrest following severe prolonged convulsions.”⁵ Symptoms can include howling, hypersensitivity to light and sound, uncontrollable vomiting, urination and defecation.⁶ But the Australian government claims 1080 poison is a safe solution in the Western part of the country; low levels of the 1080 toxin occur naturally in plants in this area, and so some animals have some built-in immunity. But these plants do not exist elsewhere in the country, and non-target animals are just as susceptible to the poison as the targeted cats. Thus Curiosity was born, using the same fresh meat bait as Eradicat, but laced with a different poison.

Curiosity's toxin works by blocking an animal's blood cells from releasing enough oxygen into the body. The government of New Zealand says it, “creates a lethal deficit of oxygen in cardiac muscle and the brain. Death in stoats and feral cats usually occurs within 2 hours after eating a lethal dose.”⁷ It is considered more humane than 1080 poison because it kills faster. Yet Curiosity has not been particularly successful in studies. Every cat observed in a study from summer 2012⁸ survived, and nearly half of the cats observed in a summer 2013⁹ study survived. In both trials researchers concluded

poisons were in the right place among the cats, but for some unknown reason were not consumed.

Both poisons are held up as relatively cheap ways to go after many cats over large areas, but therein lies a major problem. Other animals live in these targeted areas, including the threatened and endangered species the government seeks to protect. **The risk of unintended poisoning is significant, both directly by animals eating baits and indirectly by consuming a dead, poisoned animal.**

In fact, concerns about 1080 poison and others led former President Nixon to ban their use on federal lands here in 1972. This is because **1080 poison is toxic to anything that breathes, from mammals like cats (and humans), to vertebrates such as birds, and even insects.** Limited use was allowed again beginning in 1982, primarily to protect commercial livestock from predators like coyotes.

Compound 1080 is frequently used in Australia and New Zealand (coincidentally the world's number one consumer of 1080) for the same purpose, protection of livestock from deadly “invasive” species. But this is an interesting twist, because sheep and cattle, which are produced in enormous numbers in both places, are not themselves native to either country. The real intent then becomes clear; **poisoning of predators is not for the well-being of “native” animals, but for the fattening of ranchers' wallets.**

Death by 1080 poison is inhumane, and the same should be said for Curiosity. The emphasis on lethal poisons exposes the hard truth that the Australian government is not really interested in broad-scale, non-lethal, humane management techniques at all. It has evaluated the relative humaneness of different killing methods, and decided that shooting is the MOST humane. Yet its new plan shifts resources to poisoning, which it rates as LESS humane. Of course, it is more accurate to describe killing methods in terms of their relative cruelty, since killing any healthy, thriving animal is by definition not humane.



How to Take Action:

Australia's Threat Abatement Plan and Tasmania's Cat Management Plan could have dire consequences for feral cats if left unchanged. Please write to the agencies listed below and tell them you do not agree with using deadly methods to manage the feral cat population. Your opinion matters and WILL be heard. Australian Minister for the Environment Greg Hunt responded to a letter from ACR last year, so we know they are listening!

Australia:

Mr. Peter Wright, Director
Environmental Biosecurity Section
Department of the Environment
GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2601
Email: invasivespecies@environment.gov.au

Tasmania:

Mr. Michael Askey-Doran, Manager
Invasive Species Branch
PO Box 46
Kings Meadows, Tasmania 7249
Email: Michael.Askey-Doran@dPIPWE.tas.gov.au

¹http://www.iol.co.za/scitech/science/environment/killer-mice-wreak-havoc-on-marion-island-1.1855863#.VXCEFUy2X_p

²<http://www.publish.csiro.au/?paper=WR14030>

³<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2015/04/07/4203004.htm>

⁴<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/threat-abatement-plans/draft-feral-cats-2015>

⁵<http://www.nrdc.org/land/files/predator-poisons-FS.pdf>

⁶<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/pests-and-pain/5438680>

⁷<http://www.envirolink.govt.nz/PageFiles/786/1035-NLRC140%20PAPP%20for%20toat%20and%20feral%20cat%20control.pdf>

⁸<http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/1a97c6bf-a28e-4a95-b0ca-37feb3cd8376/files/curiosity-karjini-national-park.pdf>

⁹<http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/65e6f9c0-7dac-4312-8006-866f495632e0/files/curiosity-roxy-downs.pdf>

Common Skin Ailments in Cats

by Maggie Funkhouser

During the summer months, there tends to be an increase in allergy symptoms and skin irritation in cats. Hot, dry weather can bring itchy, flaky skin, and hot, humid conditions bring parasite infestations and fungal infections. All cats shed and lose their winter coats as temperatures begin to rise, but if a cat seems to be experiencing abnormal shedding, bald patches, red irritated skin, or excessive scratching and grooming, it's important to identify what is causing these symptoms and provide proper treatment. Skin conditions can also indicate poor nutrition, stress or anxiety, or other illnesses, so it's important to consult a veterinarian if symptoms persist. A few common skin ailments, for both indoor and outdoor cats, are listed below.

External Parasites

If you notice a cat who is excessively scratching or biting at her fur, or if she is losing fur and has bald patches, this could indicate a flea infestation. It's important to protect cats from pesky parasites such as fleas, ticks and mites because they don't just cause skin irritation, but they can also cause anemia (lack of healthy red blood cells), tape worm infestations (cats ingest infected fleas), and carry disease. Monthly topical treatments are available at pet supply stores and through a veterinarian. Make sure to use products that treat external parasites (fleas) as well as internal parasites (tapeworms); we recommend using Advantage Multi. Capstar pills can be crushed into wet food for feral cats, and flea powder/spray can be applied to bedding and in shelters.

Please be aware NOT to use flea control products (collars, sprays) that contain tetrachlovinphos (TCVP), a hazardous neurotoxin. Unfortunately, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) still has not banned this dangerous chemical, and some companies continue to market products containing TCVP, despite their documented harmful effects.

Allergic Dermatitis

Cats can have allergic reactions to grooming products, food, and environmental irritants, such as pollen or bites from fleas or mosquitoes. Scratching the head or neck are common signs of food allergies. Symptoms of other allergies include chewing on the paws or base of the tail, or scratching the ears. Allergies can also cause hair loss or skin lesions anywhere on the body, as pictured on the cat's belly below. A variety of treatments are available to soothe itchy skin, but avoiding exposure to the irritants is the best strategy (i.e. get rid of fleas, stop using a particular grooming product, change diet). Antihistamines, fatty acid supplements, baths and sprays can help relieve itching, but a severely allergic cat may need to be treated with medications such as steroids or antibiotics.



Fungal Infections (Ringworm)

Fungal infections can be common occurrences in cats, with skin lesions typically appearing on the tips of the ears, nose, tail and also on the feet and hocks; however, the rash can spread to all parts of the body. The skin around these lesions is often flaky and bald; not always red in color; and the rash is usually itchy. Fungal infections are highly contagious and can spread to other animals, as well as to people. In humans, the infection is called Ringworm because of the red, circular pattern of the lesions. It is important to keep the infected cat quarantined and to wear gloves when applying ointment.



The bald rough patch above this cat's eye was caused by a fungal infection.

A veterinarian should take a sample scraping of the rash area so a fungal culture can be performed. This will identify the type of fungus and allow for proper treatment. Treatment depends on severity, but may include specialized shampoos or dips, ointments, or oral medications. Topical treatment sterilizes the outside of the body, while oral medications kill the infection internally. For small outbreaks, over-the-counter anti-fungal creams (i.e. athlete's foot cream) can be used to treat cats, dogs, and humans. Feral cats can be bathed or dipped under anesthesia, but most fungal infections within colonies resolve themselves. Treatment of feral cats is not always necessary.

For those caring for cats in a shelter environment, it is important that cats with upper respiratory infections (URI) are never housed with fungus infected cats; URI patients are much more susceptible to contracting fungal infections. Reduction of stress is also very important because lowered immunity promotes increased spread of infections. Proper grooming habits help to stop the spread; however, if cats are sheltered in too small of living quarters that prevent normal grooming habits, this can encourage the spread of infection. Always note which cats and kittens came to the rescue together, so that in the event of an outbreak, those cage mates are examined for potential infection.

Join our Cat Circle

When you join our very special Cat Circle by pledging a monthly contribution, you will be providing our rescued cats with daily necessities, like nutritious food, warm shelter, and quality medical care. As little as \$10 a month will feed a homeless cat for an entire year. And \$15 a month ensures she receives essential spay/neuter surgery and helps cover other medical costs. To join our Cat Circle, simply provide your credit card information on the enclosed envelope or setup your donation online at SaveACat.org.

Wills and Bequests:

Consider Alley Cat Rescue in your estate plans. This will ensure that your love and care for cats continues beyond your lifetime. Suggested bequest language: "I give (specific dollar amount or property) to Alley Cat Rescue, Inc., with mailing address PO BOX 585, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712, for its general purpose to help stray, abandoned, and feral cats. Tax ID: 52-2279100."



Mission Statement:

Alley Cat Rescue (ACR) works to protect cats on several levels: locally through rescue, rehabilitation and adoption of cats and nationally through a network of Cat Action Teams. ACR is dedicated to the health, well-being and welfare of all cats: domestic, stray, abandoned and feral. ACR also assists the international animal community.

Alley Cat Rescue Staff:

Louise Holton - *Founder and President* - Denise Hilton - *Director of Operations*
Maggie Funkhouser - *Director of Communications and Development*
Tom Ragusa - *Finance Associate* - Joe Zimmermann - *Research Intern*
Adam Jablonski - *Communications Associate* - Liz Kurzawinski - *Community Outreach Coordinator*
Emily Patnode - *Administrative Assistant*

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Join the conversation!

[Twitter.com/saveacatorg](https://twitter.com/saveacatorg)

Follow us!

[Instagram.com/AlleyCatRescue](https://www.instagram.com/AlleyCatRescue)

Check us out!

AlleyCatRescue.Blogspot.com

Stay in the know with trending hot topics!

Ways You Can Help!

CFC#10472

Give through your workplace's Combined Federal Campaign!

GivingWorks.EBay.com

Sell items on EBay, with proceeds to benefit ACR!

Smile.Amazon.com

Buy items on Amazon, with proceeds to benefit cats!

V-DAC.com

Donate your old vehicle!

Advocate for community cats everywhere you go!

Wearing ACR gear can help spark great conversation. Why not talk about cats while waiting in line at the grocery store or the bank? It's the perfect opportunity to educate others on the importance of TNR and the humane option for managing outdoor cats.

All T-shirts and sweat shirts are available in sizes **small, medium, large, XL, 2XL, and 3XL.**

Hanes cotton tagless "Cat Face" t-shirts are available in grey or white. ACR logo on back.

Cotton navy blue hooded sweatshirts with "TNR is the cat's meow!" printed on front and ACR logo on back.

Polyester tote bag measures 14" wide by 12" tall. ACR logo on back. Available in hunter green (shown), grey, or black.



(FRONT)



(BACK)

Grey or White "Cat Face" T-shirt \$20 each
MD residents add \$1.20 sales tax.



Tote Bag \$15 each
MD residents add \$0.90 sales tax.



"TNR is the cat's meow!" \$30 each
MD residents please add \$1.80 sales tax.

Order Form

Name: _____ Order Total \$: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Item	Price	Size(s) (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)	No. of Items	Total
Cat Face T-shirt (grey)	\$20			\$
Cat Face T-shirt (white)	\$20			\$
Hooded Sweatshirt (navy blue)	\$30			\$
Tote Bag (hunter green)	\$15	N/A		\$
Tote Bag (grey)	\$15	N/A		\$
Tote Bag (black)	\$15	N/A		\$

*Maryland residents ONLY please remember to add the appropriate sales tax for each item.

**There is a flat shipping rate of \$7.00 for ALL purchases.

Order total	\$
Sales tax (6%)*	+\$
Shipping**	+\$7.00
Total with tax & shipping	\$

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

Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

RETURN COMPLETED ORDER FORM TO ALLEY CAT RESCUE: PO BOX 585 Mt. Rainier, MD 20712



It's almost here! *Alley Cat Rescue's Guide to Managing Community Cats* will soon be in print!

Advance praise...

“... the best and most informative book ever written on the subject and we badly need the information. The research is thorough, the science is flawless, the information is fascinating and the writing is beautiful. ... it highlights a tsunami of misinformation that now burdens us, and opens the way to a far better future for a species we value highly but seriously misunderstand.”

—Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, *Tribe of Tiger: Cats and Their Culture*

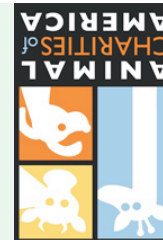
Founder and President, Louise Holton has been tirelessly working on a handbook that examines the ins and outs of humanely controlling feral cat populations, while providing some fascinating historical information on America's most beloved companion animal.

Louise has been caring for community cats for over 40 years, with two international cat advocacy organizations under her belt. In her new book, she candidly recounts some of her personal experiences working with homeless cats and provides the reader with detailed how-to instructions on establishing a safe and successful Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program.

The motivation behind this project comes from Louise's intentions to freely distribute the handbook to mayors, city council members, and those with seats on Capitol Hill, so that humane animal management remains at the forefront of positive political change. Despite growing support for TNR programs, some oppose this life-saving practice, including the American Bird Conservancy and the U.S. Wildlife Services. These groups use fear mongering to spread misinformation and blatant lies regarding outdoor cats, TNR, and predation. Upon release of the book, ACR aims to ensure the correct information reaches the hands of folks who guide community policy, so that humane practices can be established as the new status quo for animal management.

Your can support this game-changing project by making a tax-deductible donation at SaveACat.org.

Order a new t-shirt designed after the cover art - sales support the book's publication! Details inside!



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