



How to help... if you find a cat outside

Most cats are best left where they are

Cats wandering outside are usually not far from their homes and are unlikely to be lost. Research shows that cats are over 13 times more likely to be reunited with their owners if left in place rather than taken to a shelter. A cat that looks healthy with good body condition and coat is very rarely lost. We might not know where that cat lives, but good body condition tells us the cat likely knows where home is. A cat that is not injured, ill or in imminent danger is unlikely to need assistance.

Here's how you can help

- If the cat looks healthy, please leave it where it is/put it back where you found it.
- Post a picture and description of the cat on NextDoor, Craigslist, Pawboost, Lost Cats of IL, helpinglostpets.com, and surrounding neighborhood Facebook groups.
- Post "Cat Sighting" flyers in your neighborhood with your contact information and the date/time/location of sighting.



2741 S. Western Ave.
Chicago, IL 60608
Open noon-7 p.m.
(by appointment only)
VisitCACC@
CityofChicago.org

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ChicagoAnimalCareandControl
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ChicagoACC

More information

bit.ly/CACC_FAQ
chicago.gov/cacc

CACC is the city's only municipal open-admission animal shelter. It protects the public and promotes humane care of animals.

MOST CATS/KITTENS FOUND OUTSIDE SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE. IF THEY ARE INJURED, ILL, OR IN IMMEDIATE DANGER:

- Call 311 or visit 311.CHICAGO.GOV
- Bring them to CACC: 2741 S. Western Ave. (12- 7 P.M.)

Community cats

While not all free-roaming cats have what we think of as a traditional home, if they are healthy and in good body condition, they *likely* have a place they call home. These cats, often called community cats, are *usually* not in need of our assistance.

If you see a cat with a tipped ear (see photo), it is an indication that the cat has been spayed or neutered and vaccinated. If a cat is creating a nuisance and is not ear tipped, Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is often the best way to help. If the cat has been abandoned, finding him a new indoor home may be appropriate.



Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR)



TNR is considered best practice and is good public policy. It ensures no new kittens are born, stabilizes cat populations, provides vaccines, and improves cats' lives. It also stops the behaviors and stresses associated with mating such as yowling, spraying, and fighting.

Healthy cats can usually be returned to their location of origin the day after surgery. Plans for sick or injured cats should be discussed with the clinic. See below for names of low-cost spay/neuter clinics and organizations that support TNR in Chicago and thank you for helping cats!

More information on TNR: www.bit.ly/tnralleycat

TNR and spay/neuter resources

PAWS Chicago Focus: South side; Clinic: 773-521-7729; yluna@pawschicago.org

Outreach: feralneighborhoodcats@pawschicago.org; 773-475-9410

Tree House Focus: North side; 773-262-4000; tnr@treehouseanimals.org

Whiskers and Tails Focus: Northwest side; info@whiskersandtailsfoundation.org

TripleRPets Focus: Southwest side/south suburbs; info@triplerpets.org; 708-738-1438

Anti-Cruelty Society Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic; anticruelty.org; 312-644-8338

Feral Feline Project Focus: North/northwest suburbs; feralfelineproject@gmail.com; 847-800-0095

CatVando Focus: Near west suburbs; catvando.org

LOST & FOUND PET RESOURCES

Helpinglostpets.com

Pawboost.com

Neighborhood Social Media Sites

Petbond.com

REHOMING RESOURCES

Rehome.Adoptapet.com

Petfinder.com

GetYourPet.com

Anticruelty.org/ShelterBypass



Chicago Community Cats
CACC Kitten on Deck