

Cats And Wildlife

The Metro region is home to more than 200 species of birds. Many species are already under huge pressure due to habitat loss and fragmentation. Cats and other hazards add to these pressures. Spaying and neutering cats and keeping them safe at home will reduce impacts on local wildlife populations.

In addition, when you keep your cat safe at home, you minimize its exposure to all kinds of dangers: disease, cars, other aggressive cats and dogs, wild predators such as coyotes and raccoons, and from becoming lost.

Regional Strategies

Animal welfare organizations from across the region are working together to address cat overpopulation, reduce shelter euthanasia rates, ensure safe permanent homes for every cat, and minimize wildlife impacts. A variety of strategies are being used, including low cost spay/neuter programs; trap-neuter-return programs for feral cats; cooperation between the shelters to identify good and permanent homes for cats; targeting critical wildlife areas to reduce cat abandonment; and research into the most effective and humane strategies to reduce cat overpopulation.

These efforts will only be successful if we stem the flow of new feral and free-roaming cats into the environment. You can help -- follow the tips from the **Cats Safe at Home™** brochure!

Stray Cats In Your Neighborhood?

Contact the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon to learn about ways you can get the cats spayed and neutered before they proliferate.



Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon
503-797-2606
FeralCats.com

Audubon Society of Portland
503-292-6855
AudubonPortland.org

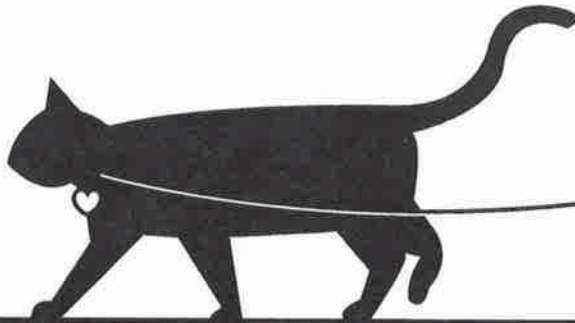
**Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter
of Washington County**
503-846-7041
WashingtonCountyPets.com

Multnomah County Animal Services
503-988-7387
MultCoPets.org



Every Cat Deserves A Safe Home

where they are loved, cared for and kept free from hazards. Yet thousands of cats die in local shelters each year and tens of thousands of stray and feral cats roam our urban landscape, vulnerable to a variety of risks and preying on our native wildlife. The **Cats Safe at Home™** program seeks to address the challenges associated with cat overpopulation in the Portland Metropolitan Area in a humane and environmentally responsible manner.



Things Are Different Here

Across the country, wildlife advocates and cat advocates have been at odds over how to address free-roaming cats. Here in the Metro region, the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon and Audubon Society of Portland, along with Multnomah County Animal Services and Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter, are working together to address the root causes of cat overpopulation with strategies that recognize the value of both cats and wildlife.

Solutions Start At Home

Cat overpopulation in the Metro region can be addressed, but we need your help!

A large black silhouette of a hand holding a leash that extends from the cat on the left. The hand is positioned at the top right of the page. Below the hand, there are three small black silhouettes of birds in flight and three stylized black flowers with long stems.

It's Up To You To Keep

Take Action

- Spay/neuter your cats
- Keep your pet cat indoors whenever possible
- If your current cat(s) won't adapt to indoor living:
 - Limit outdoor time especially in spring when birds are nesting
 - Consider keeping your next cat indoors
- Give your cat safe outdoor time:
 - Build an outdoor cat enclosure or "catio"
 - Walk your cat on a leash
 - Fence a part of your yard
- Enrich your cat's indoor life:
 - Play with your cat a few minutes each day to keep him happy, stimulated and fit – plus it is fun and great bonding time
 - Provide a cat tree with levels for viewing napping and scratching
 - Hang bird feeders where the cat can watch from inside
 - Make sure your cat is micro-chipped so that if he does become lost, he can be returned home
 - **Never abandon a cat – if you are no longer able to care for your cat, contact your local shelter to find him a new home**

The logo for 'Cats Safe at Home'. 'Cats' is written in a cursive font, 'SAFE' is in large bold block letters, and 'at HOME' is in smaller block letters below it. A white arrow points from the text 'It's Up To You To Keep' towards the logo.

**Cats
SAFE
at
HOME™**