

# You found a stray cat. NOW WHAT?



Animal  
Care Centers  
of NYC

## “Is the cat sick, injured, or in immediate danger?”

..... YES  
..... NO

Leave the cat alone. This is a community cat and (s)he has learned to live outside.



## “What if the cat is owned and someone is looking for him?”

Lost cats are **18 times** more likely to find their owners by being left where they are. Chances of getting home are better there than if he/she comes to us.

## “I HAVE A STRAY MOTHER WITH KITTENS IN MY YARD.”

### Let’s work together!

We can work together on figuring out the best situation for the kittens and getting mom spayed once she’s ready!

Please email [COMMUNITYCATS@NYCACC.ORG](mailto:COMMUNITYCATS@NYCACC.ORG) for assistance.



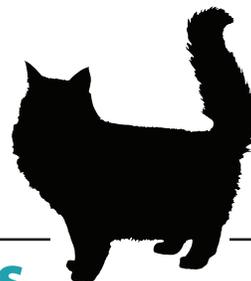
## PLEASE REMEMBER

If you’ve seen a cat in your neighborhood for a while, and he/she doesn’t seem ill or injured, it stands to reason that the cat’s basic needs are being met. It makes sense that to survive outside, the cat has developed strategies to keep safe and found places to stay dry, warm, and fed. If the cat seems to be ok – living, maybe even thriving – it does not make sense to remove him/her from that environment.

## “I FOUND KITTENS IN MY YARD.” CALL US

If the kittens’ eyes are closed and/or they are unable to walk and they are quiet, leave them alone. The mother/queen is likely nearby finding food and could be gone for several hours. If the kittens are meowing, stay a good distance away (30 feet or more) and check to see if the mother arrives. If the kittens are still meowing after several hours and there is no sign of the mother, collect the kittens, keep them warm, and bring them to ACC.

You can also stop by ACC for advice on raising the kittens yourself!



## “Is it safe for cats to live outdoors?”

Community cats are capable of thriving outside. If the cat is healthy it makes sense that he/she has a source of food and shelter and is doing pretty well! Not all cats are adjusted to living inside; for some, outside is where they call home.

## “I don’t want cats in my yard.”

There are many deterrents you can use to keep the cats away without actually removing them from their homes altogether. The most effective and efficient way to decrease the amount of cats in your yard is Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR). Cats are territorial and if you alter the cats in your yard, they will keep other cats away and will not be able to reproduce.

For assistance with TNR, please contact: [NEIGHBORHOOD CATS](http://www.neighborhoodcats.org) (www.neighborhoodcats.org) or [THE FERAL CAT INITIATIVE](http://www.animalallianceny.org/feralcats/) (www.animalallianceny.org/feralcats/)

## For more information:

Visit our website at [NYCACC.ORG](http://NYCACC.ORG)

Email [COMMUNITYCATS@NYCACC.ORG](mailto:COMMUNITYCATS@NYCACC.ORG)

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