

Tips for when you see a cat outdoors



Community Cats?

Many cats live harmoniously outdoors in community cat colonies. These are feral cats were born and raised away from people and are not considered pets, they are more like urban wildlife. They cannot be taught to be pets after about 6 weeks old.

Simply removing the cats does not eliminate the problem.
If community cats are bothering you or your neighbors try these tips.

- Remove any materials that could be a "den".
- Contain your trash and any other food sources.
- Use synthetic coyote urine to line your property.
- Sprinkle cayenne pepper in your garden soil if cats are using it as a litter box. Cats do not like the spicy flavor it leaves on their paws and fur.
- Remember that if you remove the food source that is causing the cats to congregate, they will move away from the area.
- If any of your neighbors are feeding the cats, try to engage in a conversation with them about how it's impacting the neighborhood.

Think it's a pet?

START HERE: Is the cat injured, critically sick, or aggressive?

YES →

Call Animal Control

↓ **NO**

LEAVE IT BE!
Many indoor/outdoor cats wander confidently and return home from even miles away. Taking a healthy, friendly neighborhood cat to a shelter, though well-intentioned, often causes that animal more harm than good.



Do you have an outdoor cat?

↓ **YES**

Collar? Tag? Microchip?

YES →

↓ **NO**

BDAR can microchip your cat for \$20

Spayed?
Neutered?
Vaccinated?

YES →

GREAT! Thank you!

Without exception, if your unaltered cat is outside, they are contributing to the overpopulation of the local cat community. It is estimated that 30,000 new kittens are born into the county each year. PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO REDUCE THIS NUMBER.

NO →