

The Big Fix Homeless Cat Project - Summer 2016

(830) 896-6053 bigfixcats.com

The
Big
Fix



We are a 501c3 and our work is primarily sustained from tax deductible donations. Call us at (830) 896-6053 for more information, or to become a volunteer. Do you have a skill that can help cats? We need volunteers for: grant writing, trappers, telephone counselors, transportation for vet visits, and more. Your help is vitally important to our success and we heartily thank you for your support!

WELCOME TO KITTEN SEASON. Kitten Season is the time of year when an overwhelming number of kittens are born. The season lasts from early Spring through the Fall. The first step in helping our community reduce the numbers of unwanted kittens is to have your own pets spayed and neutered. This should include any outdoor cats you feed. Did you know a female cat can go into heat at five months?

If you find a kitten outdoors should you take it in? No, in most cases you should leave it for the Mother cat to take care of. You can watch the area from a distance to make sure there is a mother cat that returns to them. A kitten shouldn't leave its mother until it is eight-weeks old.

Should a kitten that is too young to be away from its mother be taken to a shelter? Chances are most shelters do not have the facilities to care for very young kittens. There are sites online to help you decide if the kitten is old enough to be taken in, and also instructions on how to take care of a kitten that is too young to be away from its mother should you find one that has been abandoned. For more information, go to: <http://www.alleycat.org/kittens>



A mother cat can be spayed while nursing a litter of kittens. She must be returned to her kittens the same day which is a service most veterinarians will gladly provide. Spaying prevents the mother cat from going into heat before she has weaned the kittens. Spaying will not stop her milk flow if she is returned the same day.

If you think all adorable kittens will find their way into shelters and to rescue groups, and become adopted quickly, you couldn't be more wrong. Shelters and rescue groups become over populated with kittens during this time of the year, and large numbers sadly are euthanized. This is due mostly to a lack of space to house them all, and a lack of the resources needed to feed and care for them. Also, unfortunately, for every kitten born there isn't a loving home to go to.

Most cats can jump five times their own height - what great athletes!

Do you have a cat that sucks on cloth (much like a child with a pacifier)? It's likely the cat was taken away from its mother before it was ready to be weaned. This habit becomes harmful if the cat swallows threads and/or fabric as this can block the intestines requiring emergency surgery.

Only paper bags should be given to cats to play in - plastic bags can cause suffocation.

When you shop at **Pet Supplies Plus** to buy cat food, please consider buying an extra bag and putting it in our bin near the cash registers. These donations go directly to caretakers feeding (neutered & spayed) feral cat communities around our area. We thank you for your help!

Popular cat names: Bella, Mandy, Cuddles, Gizmo, Dusty, Buzz, Zeus, Nibbles

Cleopatra's cat, Charmian, is thought to be the inspiration for the way the Queen painted her face with makeup and used other decorations.

If your cat spends a lot of time on your furniture, and it's the time of year that cats shed the most, place blankets or towels on your cats' favorite snoozing spots. These can be quickly and easily removed when company arrives, and your guests won't leave with their clothing covered in fur.

Which cat breed has the most toes? Orange tabbies usually win. The record holder is an orange tabby named Jake who has 28 toes and lives in New York. The previous winner was also an orange tabby named Mickey with 27 toes.

Looking for the Purrfect Gift for the Cat Lover on your list? A gift to *The Big Fix* is a wonderful way to celebrate your shared love of cats and to make the world a better place for them. We will send a card notifying your honoree of your thoughtful gift in their name. Your tax deductible gift of as little as \$10 will allow us to continue our mission. Your donation goes directly to humane trapping, neutering, and cat care. Simply fill out the form below and enclose it with your donation.

Checks should be made out to: *The Big Fix* and mailed to: The Big Fix, P.O. Box 294003, Kerrville TX 78029

Name of Honoree:

Occasion (birthday, Graduation, Anniversary, etc.):

Send my gift card to:

(Recipient's mailing address):

Donor's Name:

Donor's Phone #:

